The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba
L'Aide Juridique du Manitoba
Annual Report

2001

TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2001

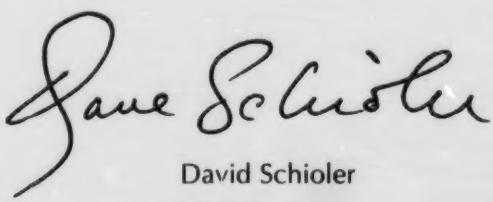
The Honourable Gord Mackintosh
Minister of Justice
Room 104
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Section 28 of the Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba Act, I am pleased to submit the Twenty-ninth Annual Report for the Society for the year ending March 31, 2001.

Detailed statistical information relating to clients, cases and costs is included. The report of the Provincial Auditor and financial statements is attached. Also included is the Audited Statement of Compensation Paid to Board Members and Employees and the Statement of Private Bar Fees and Disbursements in excess of $50,000 in accordance with Section 2 and 4 of the Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act.

Respectfully submitted,



David Schioler
Chairperson
Board of Directors

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THE CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Throughout the fiscal year ending March 31, 2001, the Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba has provided comprehensive, quality legal advice and services to individuals, groups and organizations who are unable to pay for a portion or all of the legal aid provided to them. The Board of Directors of the Society is once again pleased to recognize that the Society is able to maintain its high standard of service due to sound governance, and the excellent effort, knowledge and skill of both management and staff. The Board wishes also to acknowledge the invaluable contribution of private bar lawyers and their staff for providing legal aid services to Manitobans over this past year.

Board of Directors

The Board is pleased to advise that governance of the Society has remained in an excellent state over the past year. In fact, during fiscal year 2000/2001, our Board has been comprised of individuals who have been and are making tremendous contributions to Legal Aid Manitoba in ensuring that the Board continues to provide value to the Legal Aid Services Society. The Board has continued to promote and develop sound, innovative policy and supporting the efforts of management and staff.

The Board wishes to pay particular credence to the efforts of the following individuals who have served on the Board throughout the year.

Roger Kane
Corinne Armbruster
Bill Malcolm
Lori Ferguson-Sain
Joan Harris
Vic Bargen
John Atamanchuk
Rob Dewar
Brian Preston
Marietta Pellettieri
Barb Filuk

The Board welcomes the following new Directors active for the 2001/2002 fiscal term.

Bill Armstrong
George Muswaggon
Marlene Campbell
Grace Buhr
Diane Dzydz

The Board committee structure has continued to help optimize the quality of legal aid service delivery and ensure the sound financial management of the Society. The Board has combined its Board Meeting and Executive and Finance Committee Meeting times where possible in the interests of fiscal enhancement.

As indicated in previous Annual Reports, the Board of the Legal Aid Services Society also serves in an adjudicative, appeal capacity. In this regard, the Board hears appeals from the decisions of the Executive

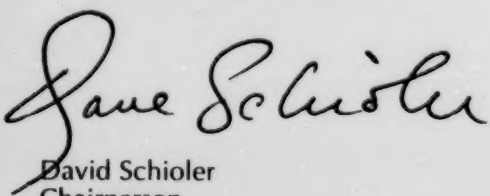
Director with respect to taxation of accounts of private bar lawyers, and also with respect to the eligibility of applicants for legal aid, both on the basis of merit and financial eligibility. The Chair is once again pleased to advise that Board members including the valuable contribution of new board members, have been performing at a particularly high standard in this regard.

Management and Staff

The Board also wishes to once again recognize the role that the Society's management has played in ensuring that quality service has been provided to legal aid clients over the past year. The Board wishes to recognize, once again, the efforts of the Executive Director, Gerry McNeilly, who has helped to bring the Society to a new level of policy development and initiative. The Board intends to encourage and support its Executive Director in combined efforts toward the provision of quality legal aid service to the Society's clients. This year, Mr. McNeilly intends to introduce a strategic plan for Legal Aid Manitoba, complete with Board and staff participation in development of that plan. The Executive Director is presently taking substantial initiatives in areas of training and development, particularly with respect to the areas of mediation (alternative dispute resolution), computer skills and strategy. Mr. McNeilly has also been active in promoting the Society nationally and indeed, working to promote the interests of those Canadians who can most benefit from legal aid services. In this regard, our Executive Director has taken a lead role serving on the Federal Provincial Permanent Working Group on Legal Aid funding. The Board also intends to continue to promote and encourage the training and development of management and staff to continue to advance the quality of service provided to Legal Aid Manitoba clients.

In Conclusion

In conclusion, the Chair wishes once again to acknowledge the efforts of Legal Aid management, staff and the significant contributions and cooperation provided by the private bar lawyers of Manitoba over the past year. These efforts have all helped to continue with the provision of quality legal services to those individuals, groups and organizations in receipt of Manitoba's legal aid.



David Schioler
Chairperson

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Another year has gone by. We enjoyed some changes and undertook initiatives, some of which were commenced in the last fiscal year.

We were also successful in receiving budget increases from government. This will allow us to continue to improve service to our clients which was one of our major goals for 1999/2000.

Legal Aid's Board of Directors again saw some new changes. New appointments were made which resulted in familiar faces being removed from our Board. I wish to thank John Atamanchuk, Roger Kane, Bill Malcolm, Corinne Armbruster and Joan Harris for devoting time to helping to make Legal Aid Manitoba the best Plan possible.

Updates

1. Tariff Changes:

One of the few unpleasant tasks that the Board and I have had to deal with is the continuation of a holdback on all criminal and youth certificates. The holdback has been in place for a number of years and it was again continued for this fiscal year. On a positive note, the holdback stands at 5% (it once stood at 12%) and progress is being made to remove it entirely. I look forward to that day and informing the private bar of this.

On a positive note, one of the budget increases was to the Tariff of Fees to be effective August 1, 2000. The tariff was increased by 6.7% in all areas. This was the first such increase since 1988. The new hourly rate is $48. Acknowledging that the hourly rate needs to be improved, we continue to pursue avenues for more funds to make our tariff of fees more competitive.

During the next fiscal year, we will be establishing a 'tariff review committee' to develop a business plan to support a tariff increase.

2. Financial Eligibility Guidelines:

Also effective August 1, 2000, as a result of budget increases, Legal Aid has been able to improve and update its financial eligibility guidelines thereby enabling us to provide service to more people. The improved guidelines reflect the 1994 Federal low-income cut-offs (LICO) levels. This is the first change/increase in these guidelines since 1990 which reflected the 1987 (LICO) levels. We are hopeful that there will be future increases to bring our eligibility guidelines to current (LICO) levels.

3. Office Amalgamations:

As part of the re-evaluating and re-engineering of our organization, it was felt that an amalgamation of some of our offices was necessary. We combined the Family Law Centre and Main Street office into one. This amalgamated office is called the Family Law Office. This office now oper-

ates out of the same building as our administrative office and is located on the 3rd floor, 294 Portage Avenue. Sharing space on the same floor is our Poverty Law office, and to complete the move, our Child Protection Law Office also moved to 294 Portage Avenue but is located on a different floor.

Further amalgamation of these offices are planned, so that all family law related work are located together.

The amalgamation of our Broadway Adult/Youth office and our Criminal Trial Centre is still ongoing. We want to ensure that the best possible location is found that will be easily accessible to our clients and also close to the courts.

4. Attendance at the For the Sake of the Children Program:

In 1997, the For the Sake of the Children Program was introduced in Manitoba. The program combined information and education to assist in parenting after a separation or divorce. Legal Aid Manitoba's involvement is to provide a pamphlet for all our clients going through a separation/divorce/access/custody issue. The pamphlet outlines the objectives of the program and provides a registration number that the client can access if they wish.

Attendance at The For Sake of the Children program is expected of all legal aid clients where certificates have been approved that involve custody and access issues. Failure to attend is a factor considered in trial approval through our case management process.

5. Legal Aid's Business Plan:

Since coming on-board in October of 1998, I have introduced a business plan that I feel is essential in providing a quality assurance program to include all aspects of Legal Aid Manitoba's service delivery, service quality and policy compliance. This is an on-going document and therefore a work in progress. I am pleased to report that some initiatives in the Business Plan have already been implemented, such as, the realignment of circuit points, introduction of collaborative law initiatives, and specialized contracts with the private bar.

6. In the summer of 2000, we entered into eleven (11) specialized contracts with members of the private bar to provide domestic law work. This to some extent assists in dealing with the difficulties of placing domestic law certificates with the private bar. To date, the undertaking has been very effective and positive. We continue to seek out innovative ways to encourage lawyers to accept legal aid certificates.

7. We have also transferred a number of circuit coverage areas from staff lawyers to members of the private bar. This move is to allow staff to focus more directly on casework.

We are contemplating other initiatives along these lines for service enhancement. These will be undertaken in the next fiscal year.

8. Some new initiatives we intend to pursue in the next fiscal year are:

a) Collaborative Law in domestic matters;
b) Full Service Duty Counsel Service in Child Protection cases;
c) Continuing with office amalgamation and;
d) Finalization of our five (5) year Business Plan.

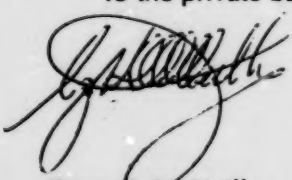
Legal Aid Manitoba faces many challenges, the biggest being, meeting the ever-increasing demand for legal aid services with limited funds.

We are also faced with the disappearing' lawyer. That is to say, that private bar lawyers are not flocking to Legal Aid to accept certificates. Not wanting to sound alarmist, a fair statement would be that we are nearing a crisis level in being able to place Legal Aid certificates with the private bar. In this vein, we are requesting the private bar's assistance in encouraging colleagues to return to accepting Legal Aid work.

The staff of Legal Aid continues to do excellent work. Demand on staff continues to increase and staff continues to rise to the occasion by meeting those increasing demands while providing high quality work for the clients of Legal Aid.

To all of the staff, thank you for your dedication to the organization and people of Manitoba.

To the private bar, thanks for your commitment to Legal Aid.



Gerry K. McNeilly
Executive Director

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW CENTRE

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The mandate of the Public Interest Law Centre is to represent groups and organizations on public interest and low income issues of law. The Centre also takes individual test cases when issues of public importance are presented, affecting a broad class of persons. In order to maximize the service provided, the Centre carries a mixed portfolio of cases and projects, with an emphasis on equality rights, aboriginal issues, social welfare and public services, and consumer matters.

There were several significant victories in the past year. In *Harris v. Minister of National Revenue,* the Federal Court of Appeal established a precedent for the common law world in holding that a public spirited taxpayer has standing to challenge the tax treatment of another taxpayer - in this case, a billion dollar family trust which moved its assets out of Canada without paying capital gains. The Centre was then successful in turning back two Crown motions to stay the proceedings as well as a Crown leave application to the Supreme Court of Canada. This case will proceed to trial in September 2001 and is being closely watched across the country.

Another important national precedent was established in *Lesuik v. Canada Employment and Immigration Commission* when the Umpire ruled that new Employment Insurance Act provisions discriminate against women working part-time, thereby offending section 15 of the *Charter of Rights.* This case could affect thousands of claimants and has been appealed by the government to the Federal Court of Appeal.

The Centre concluded a longstanding *Charter* challenge to the City of Winnipeg panhandling bylaw by negotiating a replacement enactment which respects the equality and expression rights of street people. After a unique Alternate Dispute Resolution process before Associate Chief Justice Oliphant, the City and the National Anti-poverty Organization hammered out a new bylaw which prohibits physical nuisance on the street, but otherwise allows for solicitation of donations. The new approach may become a template for other municipal jurisdictions.

Litigation over prisoner voting rights continued. The Supreme Court of Canada granted leave to appeal against the Federal Court of Appeal decision in *Sauve/McCorrister,* thereby placing this sensitive issue on the court's agenda for 2001/02. The Centre represents inmates at Stony Mountain Penitentiary as well as the Native Brotherhood Organization. At issue is whether Parliament may deny the franchise to federal prisoners in light of the severe and ongoing over-representation of Aboriginals in the prison system.

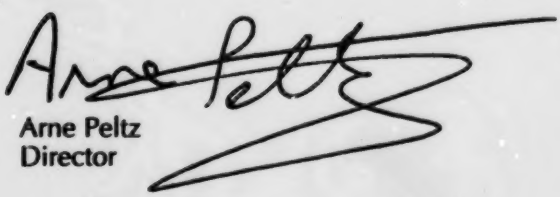
Once again, the Centre was active in representing consumers and seniors before public utility tribunals. The most notable issue was the Manitoba Public Insurance application where public outrage forced cancellation of plans to divert $30M from basic insurance reserves to other government spending purposes. This money was returned to Manitoba

consumers in the form of a one-time rebate. Consumers also saved an additional $7M on their telephone bills when the CRTC rejected part of a proposed MTS rate increase.

A number of other significant cases were continued or commenced, including the regulation of sour gas batteries in the Manitoba oil patch, licencing restrictions on international medical graduates, excessive property assessments on modest north end Winnipeg homes, approval and regulation of industrial scale hog barns in rural areas, and health care treatment for prisoners with heroin addictions. Several major Aboriginal claims continued in settlement negotiations.

The Manitoba Law Foundation continued to provide core funding. Self generated revenues, including cost recoveries, client contributions, litigation grants and donations from members of the Manitoba Bar Association under the *Pro Bono* Public Interest Project, reached $360,000, separate and apart from Law Foundation support. Under the *Pro Bono* project, a number of lawyers took on test cases without fee, donated their legal aid billings, or made cash donations. At the Bar Mid-Winter meeting, Chief Justice Richard Scott presented the *Pro Bono* recognition award to David Golub of Levine Levene Tadman for his significant contribution to north end housing revitalization. Thus, the Centre has continued to generate a substantial amount of revenue and donated services, allowing for the continued provision of broad public interest legal representation with minimal cost to the general legal aid budget.

The Centre's work on behalf of its clients inevitably involves, from time to time, an adversarial relationship with government, and therefore the maintenance of such financial independence is vital. The "independence principle" has been recognized and supported by the Legal Aid Board of Directors, the Bar and each successive Attorney-General for many years. Without fearless and effective representation by the Centre on these sensitive public law issues, some voices simply would not be heard before the courts, tribunals and the legislatures.



Arne Peltz
Director

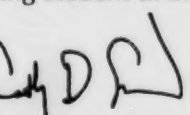
POVERTY LAW OFFICE

Poverty Law is the practice of law which attempts to address legal issues that affect the poor. Of course, most of the real problems of the poor go well beyond the legal system and are rooted in our social and economic systems. Poverty law focuses on the law and on legal or quasi-legal solutions that may improve poor people's lives.

We handle cases in areas of law unique to the poor or where the poor are disproportionately involved. These areas include welfare, Canada Pension Plan, Manitoba Public Insurance, private disability insurance, Workers Compensation Board, debtor/creditor, other civil litigation, and residential tenancies.

The type of work we do includes drop-in advice and information, informal advocacy against bureaucracies, formal representation in court and before administrative tribunals, and public legal education. We also work with the Public Interest Law Centre to identify legislation that should be challenged through test case litigation or changed through law reform because it works a hardship on the poor.

We are located in the Somerset Building at 308 - 294 Portage Avenue in Winnipeg, where we share space and resources with the Family Law Office. Our staff complement is one supervising attorney, one staff attorney and a half-time support person. Often times we find that we need extra manpower and in those circumstances, we are able to access the paralegals and articling students at the Family Law Office and the articling student at the Public Interest Law Centre.



Cathy D. Sherman
Supervising Attorney

FAMILY LAW OFFICE

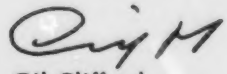
The Family Law office was created by the amalgamation of the Family Law Centre and the Main Street Community Law Centre in October 2000. It is located at 308-294 Portage Avenue. The staff is comprised of eight lawyers, three paralegals, an office manager and seven secretaries.

The Family Law office provides duty counsel service at the Osborne House facility for abused women, the Steinbach Youth Criminal Circuit, Agape House facility for abused women in Steinbach, the Lundar Criminal Circuit and Mental Health duty counsel at the Health Sciences Centre, Victoria Hospital, Grace Hospital, Selkirk and the McEwen Centre.

In addition to certificate and duty counsel services, the office also

provides drop-in advice through attendances at the drop-in centre, home visits, Stony Mountain and Headingley Jail. Certificate files include all areas of family law, circuit criminal law, and some areas of civil law including committeeships, workers compensation, autopac defenses, and non fee generating civil suits. Non certificate informal files include the preparation of wills and powers of attorney.

The Family law office staff are enjoying their new surroundings and look forward to providing efficient quality service over the upcoming fiscal year.



Gil Clifford
Supervising Attorney

CHILD PROTECTION LAW OFFICE

The Child Protection Law Office is located at 500 - 294 Portage Avenue, in Winnipeg. We are servicing Manitobans who require legal representation in the area of child welfare matters.

In the past year, we have handled certificate work in the areas of child welfare and domestic law. We provide duty counsel service two mornings and one afternoon each week at child protection dockets in Winnipeg, two mornings each month at the St. Boniface child protection docket, and one morning a month at the child protection docket in Pine Falls, Manitoba. We provide informal in-office advice to children who may not require formal representation but are requested to speak to counsel by Judges, Court Masters or child welfare Agencies.

We have continued to provide "on call" services on a seven day a week basis. This service is available until 10:00 p.m. Although volume is low, this service does result in new certificates and ready access to our existing clients.

We have continued to do significant amounts of community outreach with presentations made on a regular basis at a wide range of related agencies and institutions. As well, we continue our regular involvement with both the Law Society Bar Admission Course and the University Law School. We also continue to service the legal community as a resource that many lawyers and agencies turn to for advice in this area of the law.

Throughout the reporting period, our regular complement of two lawyers, one paralegal and one secretary was complemented by the addition of an articling student. We periodically had a part-time secretary on an on-again, off-again basis.

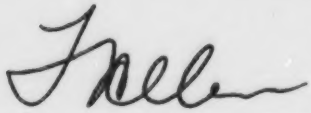
The past year, due in no small part to the ongoing implications of a Supreme Court ruling which guarantees lawyers in child welfare cases up

to and including trial, we have had a considerable number of contested trials.

We continue to maintain a registry of psychologists and independent social workers who prepare assessments for Court purposes. We are also frequently requested to provide suggestions as to rehabilitative resources.

Our office greatly exceeded benchmarks for productivity and increased our certificate load by 37%.

Our goals remain to be of service to our clients and provide quality legal services in a caring and efficient manner.



Larry Allen
Supervising Attorney

CRIMINAL TRIAL CENTRE

Designed to specialize in criminal trial and appellate work, our office has now been in existence for almost five years having opened on September 4, 1995. The exclusive focus on criminal law has resulted in an office with an impressive skill and competency level in what is ever becoming a more specialized and fluctuating legal field.

The Trial Centre has a staff comprised of four lawyers, one full and one part-time secretary and one articling student.

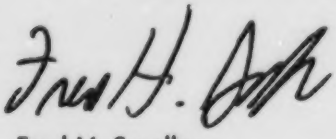
Located relatively near the Law Courts complex in the heart of downtown Winnipeg at 416 - 294 Portage Avenue, we act for clients throughout the City, and on major cases throughout the Province. We also serve the rural community of Pine Falls, and several remote communities along the eastern shore of Lake Winnipeg as follows:

1) Berens River, Bloodvein - one lawyer for at least two days each month;
2) Little Grand Rapids, Pauingassi, Poplar River - one lawyer also at least two days per month;
3) Pine Falls - one lawyer at least three days per month.

The Criminal Trial Centre is pleased to note that Greg Hawrysh who has been responsible for the office circuit duty counsel, has done an outstanding job of client retention and satisfaction.

The office is also responsible for duty counsel in Winnipeg in the Federal Prosecution Narcotic Docket Court on Wednesday of each month, a position generally filled by the articling student.

The Criminal Trial Centre is dedicated to the delivery of high quality legal services in the criminal law field. The measuring of success in such a field is often difficult, but there should be no doubt that the office's continuing high success rate in the past at trial and its overall reputation within the legal community have been enhanced in the past year. Although our caseload continues to grow ever more complex and stressful, the office continues its dedication to quality. The fact that quality has been retained in the face of increased complexity and workload is both a reflection of the quality of personnel in the office and of the independence afforded this office by a supportive administration.



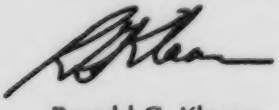
Fred H. Sandhu
Supervising Attorney

DROP IN CENTRE

All drop-ins in the City of Winnipeg are seen at the Drop-In Centre located at 416-294 Portage Avenue. The Drop-In Centre is open from 1:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday every week.

The workload is evenly shared among the legal aid staff of all the Winnipeg offices. This staff consists of 32 lawyers, nine paralegals, seven articling students, and five intake officers. Each day that the Drop-In Centre is open, four staff members are drawn on rotation from these other offices to provide service. Present each of the three afternoons are one lawyer, one paralegal, one articling student and one intake officer. This staff configuration ensures that there is at least one staff person available to cover every possible need or request as clients attend the Drop-In Centre for a variety of reasons (e.g. for advice, for information, to complete legal aid applications, etc.).

Although demand is high and the pace each afternoon is busy, the centralization of Winnipeg drop-ins in one location has improved the quality, efficiency and convenience of this service. Any person who wants informal advice from Legal Aid Manitoba in Winnipeg can get it on the day that they come in looking for it.



Ronald G. Klassen
Deputy Director

BROADWAY COMMUNITY LAW OFFICE

The Broadway Community Office is located at 635 Broadway and provides criminal legal services to adults and young offenders. The staff is comprised of one supervising attorney, thirteen attorneys, two students, three paralegals, and four support staff.

In Adult court, we provide a full service duty counsel service in three distinct areas. Three lawyers staff our domestic violence unit and provide representation in Domestic Violence court on Monday mornings in courtroom 301. In addition, they handle all trials coming out of this courtroom. The volume has steadily increased and the office is now positioned to provide duty counsel services when the new domestic violence video bail court begins operation.

Adult Criminal Duty counsel services are provided in courtrooms 304 (bail court), 119 (intake court) and 302 (disposition court), daily. Matters are handled by staff up to the setting of a trial, if they cannot be disposed of in some manner. At that time the matter will be handed off to the Criminal Trial Centre.

Lastly, the office provides a duty counsel service at the Federal penitentiary for representation of prisoners at disciplinary hearings. This is done on a bi-weekly basis.

Duty counsel is also provided at the waive in court on a weekly basis.

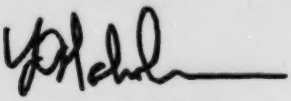
In addition, during the past year, the office has assumed responsibility for duty counsel circuits in Island Lake, Garden Hill, Portage La Prairie, and Morden. In September, the responsibility for the Morden circuit was shifted to the private bar. It is anticipated that the office will assume the Fisher Branch circuit from the Family Law Office in April, 2001.

In Youth Court, we provide duty counsel services in Courtroom 301(intake court) on Tuesdays and Thursdays, in Federal Drug Docket court on a bi-weekly basis, and at the Manitoba Youth Centre on a daily basis. We have continued to provide duty counsel on circuit in Portage la Prairie on a bi-weekly basis, and have assumed the Pine Falls circuit, which sits monthly. Staff also carry a full case load in addition to their duty counsel responsibilities.

Lawyers on staff have continued the practice of speaking to various schools, Red River College, and other groups, such as the TRY program, concerning the Young Offenders Act and the criminal justice system. One staff lawyer is present on the Board of Directors of MacDonald Youth Services and another represents all staff as a member of the Board of Directors of Legal Aid Manitoba.

The past year has again been a trying one due to staffing shortages and the assumption of a number of circuits without an increase in staffing

levels. The staff at the Broadway office are to be commended for their dedication and hard work in providing quality legal services to our clients this past year. This upcoming year promises to be a busy one with the amalgamation of the Broadway Office and the Criminal Trial Centre, and the move to new premises.



William L. Malcolm
Supervising Attorney

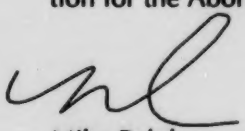
ABORIGINAL CENTRE LAW OFFICE

During the past year, the Aboriginal Centre Law Office continued to expand its case work involving legal issues that are of particular interest and concern to Aboriginal people. Cases now in progress include issues pertaining to Aboriginal rights, civil rights, band governance, treaty status, child custody and provision of social services to Aboriginal people in areas of health, housing, education, child protection, policing and employment insurance. This has included an increased amount of appellate court work and civil legal aid.

An effort has been made to keep the other community law centres informed of the types of cases being handled so that staff throughout our organization are able to identify and refer similar or other appropriate issues/cases to the community law centre.

We have also made some progress in using non-adversarial and consensus building approaches as alternatives to litigation for resolving legal disputes.

Our objectives during the next year include hiring to fill a paralegal position and creating the capacity with that position to promote the use of Aboriginal models/concepts of justice, healing and restoration in our legal work, create useful links with Aboriginal organizations on justice and legal issues, and make a greater contribution to public legal education for the Aboriginal community.



Mike Paluk
Supervising Attorney

WESTMAN COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

The Brandon Office services south western Manitoba with a largely rural population. The region is prosperous. The population base has been more or less stable but, given the booming service economy largely

caused by the Maple Leaf Hog Plant, the capacity of this office has been reached and, indeed, exceeded. Services are provided by the supervising attorney, three staff lawyers, a paralegal, intake worker and three support staff. A substantial and ever increasing portion of the office's efforts are devoted to area director activities, but the majority of the efforts are still directed to providing legal services to Legal Aid clients and client groups.

The office provides Duty Counsel services to the three Brandon Courts, being adult, youth and drug, Russell, Rossburn, Minnedosa, Virden, Neepawa and Waywayseecappo, on a regular basis. Service will be provided to Sioux Valley Court once that new court is opened. Duty Counsel service to the other outlying courts is provided on an as-needed basis.

The office also provides informal advice on a regular basis. Callers wishing a consultation with a lawyer receive telephone advice on the day on which they call. If follow up work is required, the lawyer will make an appointment for the person very shortly. Callers wishing to apply for legal aid, whether through this office or with a specific choice of counsel can usually obtain an appointment with the Intake Worker within a matter of days for that purpose. All four lawyers accept emergency telephone calls after hours and take whatever action is required in response, such as attending to the police station, RCMP Detachments, Brandon Correctional Institute or Centre for Adult Psychiatry.

Our agreement with the Westman Women's Shelter continues in effect. Residents of that shelter are guaranteed an almost immediate intake interview with either the paralegal or a lawyer, either at the shelter or at this office, at their option. We have found that most residents of the shelter prefer to attend to this office.

On an informal basis, office staff continue their participation in community and board activities.

The Westman Community Law Centre has continued to be productive. The Law Centre is a "Community Law Centre" in that, in conjunction with its role of Area office, it functions to service the needs of those in the community most needing those services. The majority of criminal, youth and family matters are handled by lawyers at the request of our clients. Almost all non-request matters are handled by staff lawyers in the absence of conflicts. The planned addition by Maple Leaf of a second shift will, however, very likely reduce the capacity of this office to function in the way it always has. This change is likely to come about quite soon.

Lorne Giesbrecht
Area Director/Supervisory Attorney

PARKLANDS COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

Parklands Community Law Centre, headquartered in Dauphin, serves west central Manitoba.

We are: The Area Director (who is a lawyer), two staff lawyers, two paralegals, and three support staff. Ours is a busy office. Our service area covers a broad geographic range. Because some of the communities we work in do not have all of the usual social support networks that urban centers do, providing effective help is at times a tremendous challenge. We provide criminal, youth, domestic, and administrative legal work. Staff assist people with cases before the Social Assistance Appeal Board and also the Mental Health Review Board. We also are responsible for the expanded duty counsel system in the criminal courts in our service area and for drop in services.

In our effort to provide top notch legal service, we streamline our work so that one lawyer focuses on the provision of criminal law service, and the other two focus primarily on family law. Although there is some overlap for our domestic lawyers into the criminal lawyer area (because of demand), by focusing in a certain field, we are able to provide our clients with quality legal work that comes with a high level of expertise. It also means that our services — in a time of scarce resources — can be provided in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible.

The fact that fewer and fewer private bar lawyers are willing to take on legal aid work means increased pressure on our staff. It has also meant increased pressure on the Legal Aid system as a whole. Especially in the area of family law, it is increasingly becoming more and more difficult to place cases with the private bar. As a staff of three lawyers, it is impossible for our office to carry the entire load of legal aid work that exists in the Parkland region.

Our office is the only law office in the Parkland region that provides "drop in" services to the community. Some of our drop in clients are streamlined into our certificate or expanded duty counsel systems. Many others come for advice, information, and help regarding a wide range of issues. Because of limited social service support in the Parkland region, our office is very often viewed as the office of last and only resort for advice and assistance. This is a demanding service to provide and it is one that is not much appreciated by anyone except those of the many who are in need. Besides providing drop in services in our Dauphin office, we also have clinics set up in the communities of Camperville, Gypsumville/St. Martin, Roblin and Swan River. We are available to other communities such as Alonsa, Barrows, Birch River, Crane River, Ebb and Flow First Nation, Ethelbert, Gilbert Plains, Grandview, Indian Birch First Nation, Kinosota, Lake Manitoba First Nation Mafeking, Mallard, Marius, McCreary, Minitonas, O-chi-chak Ko Sipi First Nation, Pelican Rapids, Pine Creek First Nation, Pine River, Sandy Bay First Nation, San Clara, Ste. Rose, Skownan First Nation, Tootinaowaziibeeng First Nation, Vogar, Waterhen, and Winnipegosis on an "as requested and as is possible"

basis. Keeping in mind that transportation is an issue for many of our citizens who live in isolated rural areas, we also provide unscheduled drop in service on a daily basis by telephone.

We provide duty counsel services in youth and adult criminal courts that include Amaranth, Ashern, Dauphin, Roblin and Swan River. A staff lawyer is present in each of these courts to obtain police particulars and the crown position on the first appearance, and then to discuss the matter with the accused person. As a result, there are fewer remands and the matter is dealt with as expeditiously as is appropriate and possible. In our expanded duty counsel system, matters are handled by staff up to the setting of a trial if the matter cannot be dealt with in some alternative fashion. Staff will handle trials in cases where a certificate for representation is issued by the Area Director.

We also provided duty counsel services in three child protection courts and in two maintenance enforcement courts. In each of these courts, a staff lawyer is present to provide initial assistance to the unrepresented.

Our staff lawyers — who try to be as responsive as possible to the needs of our clients — provide supplemental "on call" services to the one that is provided provincially through Winnipeg. Staff lawyers accept emergency phone calls after hours and take whatever action is required in response.

Our office is the Area Director's office of the Parkland Region. All applications for this region are processed through this office as are "conflict" applications from the Thompson and Brandon Area Directors' offices. The office ensures that applications are processed promptly and that counsel is appointed for eligible applicants as quickly as possible. Because of the shortage of lawyers who will do Legal Aid work in our area, this has meant that from time to time, cases have had to be placed with counsel from outside our region. The impact of this circumstance is increasing especially in the area of domestic work.

We also continue to make concerted effort to provide as much outreach work as possible to the communities we serve. We try to make ourselves available for school, community and service group presentations. Not only are we doing outreach as a service to our communities, but also by our involvement in these groups, we remind our communities of the fact that the poor do live here and that they do have needs and that they do have a voice.

Staff members are also involved in educational activities. For example, this past year one of our lawyers was involved in organizing a moot court presentation for a Cub Scout pack. This work involved members of the RCMP, court house staff, and crown attorneys' office.

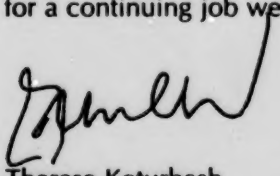
Office staff members are part of the organizing efforts behind the All Charities Campaign and the Salvation Army Christmas Hamper programme.

Staff have also been actively involved in organizing the bi-annual Legal Aid Conference. This year, a staff member is a co-chair of the organizing committee.

On top of this, staff members are expected to keep up with professional development so that continued high quality service is accessible to our clientelle.

Our dedicated staff continues to show their commitment to providing top quality legal services to the poor and the working poor.

I continue to be impressed with the high level of service my staff does provide in what are often stressful circumstances. I commend them for a continuing job well done.



Therese Koturbash
Area Director/Supervising Attorney

NORTHLANDS COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

Northlands Community Law Centre, in The Pas, provides legal aid services to The Pas and surrounding communities. Staff consists of one supervising attorney, two lawyers, one bilingual paralegal, one articling student and two full-time secretaries plus a half-time secretary.

Staff attend Provincial Court (Criminal and Family) and Youth Court as Duty Counsel on a regular basis at the following locations: Pukatawagan, Flin Flon, Cranberry Portage, Snow Lake, Moose Lake, The Pas, Easterville and Grand Rapids. In addition, staff attend Queen's Bench Criminal and Family court in both The Pas and Flin Flon. Staff also appear in front of tribunals from time to time including the Licence Suspension Appeal Board, Social Assistance Appeal Board, Residential Tenancies Board and the Disciplinary Board at The Pas Correctional Institute.

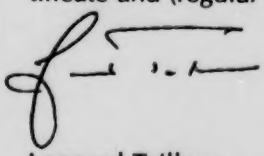
With the addition of our Cree-English bilingual paralegal in 1997, Mandy Chastellaine, this has enhanced the office's availability and effectiveness with respect to our First Nations work.

The office at The Pas is open from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., from Monday to Friday and provides advice and assistance on a drop-in basis whenever staff are available. The domestic lawyer attends at the local crisis shelter on an as-needed basis. In addition, a drop-in clinic is held at The Pas Correctional Institute on a weekly basis by the student to provide services to both sentenced prisoners and remand prisoners. Drop-in and Advice Clinics are held at most circuit locations on a regular basis, normally in conjunction with court. In addi-

tion, the paralegal also attends Pukatawagan on a monthly basis.

The office has fully modernized its computer system and is now networked with the main office in Winnipeg. The office is also intra-office networked.

The criminal law lawyers have met their objective of dealing with all non-request Legal Aid applications and also being choice of counsel on a frequent basis. A strong level of service is offered through both the certificate and (regular and expanded) duty counsel programs.



Leonard Tailleur
Supervising Attorney

THOMPSON COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

The Thompson Community Law Centre serves the City of Thompson and 14 other communities. We have a Supervising Attorney/Area Director, three staff lawyers, two paralegals and three support staff. We offer service in English, Cree and French. We continue to offer weekly drop-ins in the communities of Norway House, Cross Lake and Nelson House. Drop-ins are held in other communities as the demand requires.

This year saw staff changes in our office. Cameron Pauls relocated to Winnipeg and was replaced by Gary Robinson. Shannon Allen joined us as an AY3. Welcome Gary and Shannon.

The "First Nations Justice Strategy" has resulted in over 80 Magistrate's Court sittings annually. Providing service with the increase continues to be a challenge. Fortunately, there has been an increase in diversion options, including the Northern Regions Justice Committee, Justice Committees in the communities, and the Aboriginal Justice Committee.

Area Director functions cover Thompson, The Pas, Flin Flon and 19 other northern communities.

Theresa McDonald
Area Director/Supervising Attorney

Legal Aid Activity by Area

For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Area	Applications for Legal Aid Certificates	Applications Refused	Certificates Issued Civil	Criminal	Youth	Certificates Cancelled	Persons Assisted by Duty Counsel
Brandon	1,585	308	758	462	82	232	3,350
	(1,553)	(252)	(683)	(397)	(115)	(123)	(2,970)
Dauphin	1,228	150	590	423	80	166	427
	(1,843)	(118)	(537)	(454)	(101)	(146)	(2,259)
The Pas & Thompson	2,231	203	742	1,105	198	104	6,471
	(2,291)	(224)	(696)	(1,109)	(215)	(197)	(7,302)
Winnipeg	16,661	2,068	6,509	5,550	1,128	3,112	23,468
	(16,355)	(1,786)	(6,587)	(5,409)	(1,071)	(2,519)	(29,462)
Provincial Total	21,705	2,729	8,599	7,540	1,488	3,614	33,716
	(22,042)	(2,380)	(8,503)	(7,369)	(1,502)	(2,985)	(41,993)

NOTES:

1. *In the fiscal year ended March 31, 2001 there was a total of 17,627 (17,374) certificates issued; of this total 4,133 (4,668) were issued to staff lawyers through the following community law centres.*

Winnipeg	*– Family Law/Poverty Law*	*1,420*	*(1,473)*
	– Criminal Trial	*500*	*(546)*
	– Youth	*43*	*(64)*
	– Child Protection	*374*	*(365)*
	– Broadway Adult	*50*	*(190)*
	– Aboriginal	*28*	*(111)*
Westman		*349*	*(495)*
Parklands		*476*	*(458)*
Northlands		*398*	*(505)*
Thompson		*495*	*(461)*
		4,133	*(4,668)*

2. *In the fiscal year ended March 31, 2001 there was a total of 33,716 (41,993) people assisted by Duty Counselling Services; of this total 31,921 (40,328) were assisted by staff lawyers through the following community law centres.*

Winnipeg	*– Family Law/Poverty Law*	*3,018*	*(185)*
	– Criminal Trial	*1,351*	*(1,192)*
	– Youth	*4,540*	*(8,773)*
	– Child Protection	*813*	*(461)*
	– Broadway Adult	*13,054*	*(18,133)*
	– Aboriginal	*5*	*(30)*
Westman		*3,318*	*(2,921)*
Parklands		*414*	*(2,149)*
Northlands		*1,599*	*(1,991)*
Thompson		*3,809*	*(4,493)*
		31,921	*(40,328)*

(Table continued on next page)

3. *For the year ended March 31, 2001 2,729 (12.6%) of the applications for Legal Aid were refused as compared to 2,380 (10.8%) in the previous year.*

4. *For the year ended March 31, 2001 there was a total of 16,953 (17,374) telephone and drop-in inquiries and 4,753 (4,198) non-certificate files opened for a total of 21,706 (21,572) people assisted. The following represents the breakdown by community law centre.*

Winnipeg	*– Administration*	*1,639*	*(1,530)*
	– Family Law/Poverty Law	*2,233*	*(2,038)*
	– Criminal Trial	*354*	*(266)*
	– Youth	*1,389*	*(1,752)*
	– Child Protection	*596*	*(369)*
	– Broadway Adult	*2,731*	*(1,869)*
	– Aboriginal	*899*	*(723)*
	– University	*663*	*(603)*
Westman		*3,427*	*(3,821)*
Parklands		*3,161*	*(2,375)*
Northlands		*1,235*	*(2,741)*
Thompson		*3,379*	*(3,485)*
		21,706	*(21,572)*

5. *For the year ended March 31, 2001 there was a total of 73,049 (80,939) people assisted either on a formal or informal basis.*

Analysis of Certificates Issued
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
CRIMINAL ADULT			
Murder	38 (23)	7 (4)	45 (27)
Attempt Murder	16 (27)	3 (3)	19 (30)
Manslaughter	9 (4)	1 (Nil)	10 (4)
Sexual Assault - A	9 (12)	3 (6)	12 (18)
Sexual Assault - Indictable	187 (160)	40 (58)	227 (218)
Assault - B	141 (148)	16 (22)	157 (170)
Robbery	351 (346)	27 (35)	378 (381)
Cause Harm/Death	42 (25)	13 (6)	55 (31)
Other Sexual Offences - B	76 (53)	16 (13)	92 (66)
Arson	47 (39)	10 (11)	57 (50)
Narcotics - B	262 (207)	49 (37)	311 (244)
Incest	Nil (1)	Nil (1)	Nil (2)
Sexual Assault - Summary	56 (69)	18 (26)	74 (95)
Miscellaneous - B	24 (18)	2 (2)	26 (20)
Other Sexual Offences - C	16 (15)	11 (9)	27 (24)
Break, Enter	623 (682)	98 (107)	721 (789)
Possess Weapon Dangerous to Public Peace	146 (149)	33 (48)	179 (197)
Theft - Indictable	95 (96)	11 (21)	106 (117)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Indictable	49 (73)	14 (10)	63 (83)
Forgery/Uttering	63 (52)	15 (11)	78 (63)
Fraud - Indictable	32 (34)	12 (15)	44 (49)
False Pretences - Indictable	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)

(Table continued on next page)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
Mischief	182 (149)	23 (26)	205 (175)
U.A.L./Escape	40 (50)	Nil (8)	40 (58)
Other Weapons Offences - C	56 (66)	11 (16)	67 (82)
Set Fire to Substance	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Communication for the Purpose	31 (22)	1 (1)	32 (23)
Other Narcotics - C	101 (94)	16 (16)	117 (110)
M.V.O. - Federal	231 (223)	50 (67)	281 (290)
Uttering Threats	387 (359)	60 (95)	447 (454)
Obstruction	40 (23)	12 (3)	52 (26)
Breach Probation	421 (329)	45 (56)	466 (385)
Fraud - Summary	52 (62)	11 (11)	63 (73)
False Pretences - Summary	15 (10)	1 (1)	16 (11)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Summary	74 (74)	8 (15)	82 (89)
Theft - Summary	297 (360)	39 (63)	336 (423)
Other Breach and F.T.A.	297 (200)	35 (36)	332 (236)
Assault - C	1,547 (1,380)	468 (555)	2,015 (1,935)
M.V.O. - Provincial	11 (9)	2 (4)	13 (13)
Other Federal Offences	94 (114)	35 (37)	129 (151)
Other Provincial Offences	12 (1)	4 (4)	16 (5)
Parole/Prison Law	46 (25)	4 (11)	50 (36)
Appeals - Client	65 (72)	10 (18)	75 (90)
Appeals - Crown	13 (17)	7 (2)	20 (19)
Junior Counsel	5 (6)	Nil (1)	5 (7)
	6,299 (5,878)	1,241 (1,491)	7,540 (7,369)

Analysis of Certificates Issued
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
CRIMINAL YOUTH			
Murder	9 (4)	Nil (Nil)	9 (4)
Attempt Murder	6 (8)	1 (1)	7 (9)
Manslaughter	Nil (Nil)	1 (Nil)	1 (Nil)
Sexual Assault - A	3 (2)	Nil (Nil)	3 (2)
Sexual Assault - Indictable	17 (14)	4 (9)	21 (23)
Assault - B	24 (27)	10 (4)	34 (31)
Robbery	133 (149)	4 (3)	137 (152)
Cause Harm/Death	2 (1)	Nil (1)	2 (2)
Other Sexual Offences - B	8 (6)	1 (3)	9 (9)
Arson	32 (60)	4 (6)	36 (66)
Narcotics - B	20 (16)	2 (Nil)	22 (16)
Incest	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Sexual Assault - Summary	12 (5)	2 (5)	14 (10)
Miscellaneous - B	1 (2)	Nil (Nil)	1 (2)
Other Sexual Offences - C	5 (1)	Nil (Nil)	5 (1)
Break, Enter	261 (291)	43 (69)	304 (360)
Possess Weapon Dangerous to Public Peace	42 (27)	6 (10)	48 (37)
Theft - Indictable	73 (73)	4 (5)	77 (78)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Indictable	25 (30)	1 (9)	26 (39)
Forgery/Uttering	3 (2)	1 (1)	4 (3)
Fraud - Indictable	3 (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	3 (Nil)
Mischief	57 (39)	9 (19)	66 (58)

(Table continued on next page)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
U.A.L./Escape	33 (14)	1 (Nil)	34 (14)
Other Weapons Offences - C	10 (12)	1 (2)	11 (14)
Communication for the Purpose	5 (4)	Nil (Nil)	5 (4)
Other Narcotics - C	13 (15)	Nil (3)	13 (18)
M.V.O. - Federal	9 (8)	4 (2)	13 (10)
Uttering Threats	46 (28)	4 (5)	50 (33)
Obstruction	2 (3)	1 (Nil)	3 (3)
Breach Probation	13 (27)	2 (3)	15 (30)
Fraud - Summary	10 (8)	2 (2)	12 (10)
False Pretences - Summary	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Summary	24 (33)	1 (1)	25 (34)
Theft - Summary	76 (70)	10 (7)	86 (77)
Other Breach and F.T.A.	15 (9)	2 (3)	17 (12)
Assault - C	160 (132)	47 (43)	207 (175)
M.V.O. - Provincial	Nil (1)	1 (Nil)	1 (1)
Other Federal Offences	11 (13)	1 (3)	12 (16)
Other Provincial Offences	2 (1)	1 (1)	3 (2)
Parole/Prison Law	Nil (1)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (1)
Youth Transfers	1 (1)	Nil (Nil)	1 (1)
Youth Reviews/Breaches	123 (106)	11 (18)	134 (124)
Appeals - Youth	6 (11)	11 (10)	17 (21)
Junior Counsel	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
	1,295 (1,254)	193 (248)	1,488 (1,502)

Analysis of Certificates Issued
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
CIVIL			
Divorce	1,010 (891)	434 (486)	1,444 (1,377)
Separation	1,555 (1,387)	552 (620)	2,107 (2,007)
Variation: Maintenance/Enforcement	758 (656)	224 (256)	982 (912)
C.F.S.	564 (623)	324 (310)	888 (933)
Adoption	34 (35)	33 (32)	67 (67)
Parentage Proceeding	712 (668)	384 (424)	1,096 (1,092)
Immigration	75 (85)	8 (22)	83 (107)
Welfare Matters	41 (27)	79 (105)	120 (132)
Other Administrative	21 (27)	56 (54)	77 (81)
Landlord/Tenant	6 (5)	3 (6)	9 (11)
Appeals - Civil	33 (14)	11 (16)	44 (30)
Legal Opinions - Civil	21 (24)	18 (30)	39 (54)
Other - Civil	42 (37)	27 (27)	69 (64)
Youth Court Appointed/Amicus	72 (98)	45 (95)	117 (193)
Workers Compensation	9 (3)	6 (6)	15 (9)
Mental Health Matters	21 (12)	18 (36)	39 (48)
Estate Matters	4 (5)	Nil (3)	4 (8)
Defendant - Civil Suit	21 (27)	7 (13)	28 (40)
Plaintiff - Civil Suit	9 (9)	4 (1)	13 (10)
Immigration - Adjudicator's Appointment	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Private Guardianship	287 (243)	170 (177)	457 (420)
Enforcement Only	11 (7)	12 (11)	23 (18)

(Table continued on next page)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
Variation: Access/Custody	344 (390)	87 (105)	431 (495)
Group Application	1 (Nil)	2 (1)	3 (1)
Disbursements Only	10 (8)	Nil (Nil)	10 (8)
Other Family	239 (208)	195 (178)	434 (386)
	5,900 (5,489)	2,699 (3,014)	8,599 (8,503)

Analysis of Completed Cases by Types of Case
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
CRIMINAL ADULT			
Murder	32	$ 352,091	$ 11,002.86
	(23)	(345,189)	(15,008.21)
Attempt Murder	23	55,904	2,430.62
	(22)	(67,025)	(3,046.59)
Manslaughter	5	22,996	4,599.10
	(6)	(72,248)	(12,041.37)
Sexual Assault - A	8	13,532	1,691.49
	(14)	(31,573)	(2,255.22)
Import Narcotics	Nil	Nil	Nil
	(Nil)	(Nil)	(Nil)
Sexual Assault - Indictable	133	181,084	1,361.53
	(176)	(200,499)	(1,139.20)
Assault - B	126	121,639	965.39
	(142)	(127,991)	(901.35)
Robbery	350	368,406	1,052.59
	(306)	(273,814)	(894.82)
Cause Harm/Death	31	35,029	1,129.98
	(33)	(23,253)	(704.63)
Other Sexual Offences - B	58	77,856	1,342.34
	(52)	(48,402)	(930.80)
Arson	38	28,333	745.62
	(38)	(25,687)	(675.97)
Narcotics - B	222	183,713	827.54
	(167)	(115,556)	(691.95)
Incest	Nil	478	Nil
	(3)	(7,493)	(2,497.58)
Sexual Assault - Summary	61	35,034	574.33
	(44)	(26,172)	(594.81)
Miscellaneous - B	26	24,755	952.11
	(19)	(17,258)	(908.33)
Other Sexual Offences - C	17	15,067	886.32
	(15)	(6,855)	(457.03)
Break, Enter	635	281,253	442.92
	(684)	(283,237)	(414.09)
Possess Weapon Dangerous to Public Peace	148	74,787	505.32
	(140)	(47,744)	(341.03)
Theft - Indictable	83	35,321	425.55
	(101)	(48,214)	(477.36)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Indictable	62	27,087	436.89
	(83)	(30,739)	(370.35)
Forgery/Uttering	51	21,761	426.69
	(60)	(18,695)	(311.58)
Fraud - Indictable	33	40,182	1,217.63
	(42)	(40,036)	(953.25)

(Table continued on next page)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
False Pretences - Indictable	Nil (4)	$ 58 (1,269)	$ Nil (317.19)
Mischief	142 (161)	52,424 (49,497)	369.18 (307.43)
U.A.L./Escape	37 (49)	11,174 (14,161)	302.00 (289.01)
Other Weapons Offences - C	46 (70)	43,037 (32,812)	935.59 (468.75)
Set Fire to Substance	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Communication for the Purpose	31 (20)	8,625 (4,915)	278.22 (245.76)
Other Narcotics - C	100 (84)	45,922 (41,932)	459.22 (499.19)
M.V.O. - Federal	219 (216)	89,124 (60,256)	406.96 (278.96)
Uttering Threats	346 (363)	137,438 (126,409)	397.22 (348.23)
Obstruction	29 (20)	15,546 (6,860)	536.06 (342.98)
Breach Probation	341 (300)	94,442 (79,461)	276.96 (264.87)
Fraud - Summary	54 (65)	21,939 (18,707)	406.28 (287.80)
False Pretences - Summary	14 (12)	5,778 (4,320)	412.74 (359.97)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Summary	70 (75)	44,315 (19,196)	633.07 (255.95)
Theft - Summary	292 (346)	88,646 (108,210)	303.58 (312.75)
Other Breach and F.T.A.	236 (178)	72,489 (51,801)	307.16 (291.01)
Assault - C	1,356 (1,295)	484,038 (465,509)	356.96 (359.47)
M.V.O. - Provincial	8 (11)	2,831 (3,173)	353.90 (288.46)
Other Federal Offences	93 (104)	71,118 (49,543)	764.71 (476.37)
Other Provincial Offences	8 (1)	2,298 (572)	287.31 (572.35)
Parole/Prison Law	37 (42)	19,081 (11,680)	515.71 (278.10)
Appeals - Client	65 (76)	103,578 (89,016)	1,593.51 (1,171.26)
Appeals - Crown	15 (22)	31,147 (30,698)	2,076.50 (1,395.38)
Junior Counsel	3 (4)	6,661 (13,680)	2,220.35 (3,419.95)
	5,684 (5,688)	$ 3,448,019 (3,141,358)	$ 606.62 (552.28)

Analysis of Completed Cases by Types of Case
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
CRIMINAL YOUTH			
Murder	4	$ 19,709	$ 4,927.15
	(Nil)	(4,791)	(Nil)
Attempt Murder	4	5,407	1,351.64
	(6)	(6,108)	(1,017.98)
Manslaughter	Nil	194	Nil
	(1)	(5,074)	(5,073.54)
Sexual Assault - Weapon	4	3,306	826.43
	(1)	(1,253)	(1,252.65)
Import Narcotics	Nil	Nil	Nil
	(Nil)	(Nil)	(Nil)
Sexual Assault - Indictable	15	17,476	1,165.04
	(20)	(13,233)	(661.66)
Assault - B	20	15,812	790.61
	(25)	(17,593)	(703.72)
Robbery	135	90,808	672.65
	(154)	(105,587)	(685.63)
Cause Harm/Death	Nil	454	Nil
	(1)	(1,552)	(1,552.12)
Other Sexual Offences - B	10	8,717	871.75
	(6)	(6,845)	(1,140.85)
Arson	47	42,828	911.23
	(29)	(17,624)	(607.72)
Narcotics - B	13	8,942	687.82
	(12)	(6,302)	(525.18)
Incest	Nil	Nil	Nil
	(Nil)	(Nil)	(Nil)
Sexual Assault - Summary	5	2,642	528.34
	(7)	(6,373)	(910.37)
Miscellaneous - B	2	879	439.64
	(2)	(973)	(486.49)
Other Sexual Offences - C	5	5,088	1,017.59
	(1)	(1,442)	(1,442.27)
Break, Enter	276	106,462	385.73
	(312)	(116,333)	(372.86)
Possess Weapons Dangerous to Public Peace	38	12,548	330.21
	(29)	(11,687)	(402.99)
Theft - Indictable	68	20,607	303.04
	(70)	(20,445)	(292.07)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Indictable	25	8,640	345.59
	(30)	(7,746)	(258.18)
Forgery/Uttering	2	719	359.26
	(9)	(2,306)	(256.27)
Fraud - Indictable	Nil	Nil	Nil
	(Nil)	(Nil)	(Nil)

(Table continued on next page)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
Mischief	43 (48)	$ 11,273 (13,703)	$ 262.17 (285.49)
U.A.L./Escape	26 (11)	5,816 (2,814)	223.69 (255.82)
Other Weapons Offences	10 (8)	3,019 (1,597)	301.92 (199.62)
Communication for the Purpose	4 (4)	1,407 (731)	351.66 (182.74)
Other Narcotics - C	13 (16)	6,178 (4,405)	475.25 (275.28)
M.V.O. - Federal	10 (8)	3,858 (2,782)	385.80 (347.80)
Uttering Threats	34 (29)	9,030 (13,273)	265.59 (457.68)
Obstruction	1 (4)	226 (1,056)	225.70 (264.11)
Breach Probation	17 (21)	4,122 (5,092)	242.50 (242.46)
Fraud - Summary	8 (5)	2,254 (935)	281.81 (186.98)
False Pretences - Summary	Nil (Nil)	Nil (28)	Nil (Nil)
Possess Goods Obtained by by Crime - Summary	25 (36)	6,322 (9,140)	252.89 (253.88)
Theft - Summary	82 (63)	20,668 (16,403)	252.05 (260.37)
Other Breach and F.T.A.	14 (10)	3,131 (3,601)	223.67 (360.12)
Assault - C	129 (128)	41,437 (38,870)	321.22 (303.67)
M.V.O. - Provincial	Nil (1)	13 (447)	Nil (446.52)
Other Federal Offences	7 (10)	1,728 (1,822)	246.85 (182.16)
Other Provincial Offences	2 (1)	1,350 (404)	675.20 (403.98)
Parole/Prison Law	1 (1)	332 (Nil)	332.00 (Nil)
Youth Transfers	2 (Nil)	383 (77)	191.52 (Nil)
Youth Reviews/Breaches	122 (99)	32,229 (23,045)	264.18 (232.78)
Appeals - Youth	6 (14)	5,578 (9,574)	929.59 (683.83)
	1,229 (1,232)	$ 531,592 (503,064)	$ 432.54 (408.33)

Analysis of Completed Cases by Types of Case
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
CIVIL			
Divorce	898 (975)	$ 560,527 (548,824)	$ 624.19 (562.90)
Separation	1,262 (1,326)	667,713 (663,795)	529.09 (500.60)
Variation: Maintenance/Enforcement	609 (623)	338,953 (318,828)	556.57 (511.76)
C.F.S.	551 (598)	398,808 (444,912)	723.79 (744.00)
Adoption	25 (46)	14,422 (21,398)	576.88 (465.17)
Parentage Proceeding	662 (717)	379,843 (386,757)	573.78 (539.41)
Immigration	115 (63)	65,298 (45,118)	567.81 (716.16)
Welfare Matters	33 (27)	3,318 (8,821)	100.56 (326.71)
Other Administrative	19 (28)	10,296 (11,764)	541.89 (420.14)
Landlord/Tenant	8 (5)	3,166 (2,273)	395.69 (454.65)
Appeals - Civil	16 (19)	15,121 (17,815)	945.08 (937.63)
Legal Opinions - Civil	18 (31)	4,491 (8,947)	249.51 (288.61)
Other - Civil	34 (32)	18,253 (15,599)	536.84 (487.46)
Youth Court Appointed/Amicus	82 (80)	55,645 (43,230)	678.60 (540.38)
Workers Compensation	4 (9)	3,710 (7,644)	927.56 (849.31)
Mental Health Matters	13 (21)	4,279 (5,210)	329.14 (248.11)
Estate Matters	5 (5)	3,014 (1,653)	602.80 (330.58)
Defendant - Civil Suit	23 (36)	19,293 (27,452)	838.84 (762.57)
Plaintiff - Civil Suit	11 (7)	23,634 (11,857)	2,148.58 (1,693.93)
Immigration - Adjudicator's Appointment	Nil (1)	Nil (472)	Nil (472.30)
Private Guardianship	247 (241)	124,374 (123,756)	503.54 (513.51)
Enforcement Only	5 (11)	1,232 (3,436)	246.43 (312.37)

(Table continued on next page)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
Variation: Access/Custody	320 (381)	$ 208,873 (214,415)	$ 652.73 (562.77)
Group Application	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Disbursements Only	2 (4)	2,985 (7,408)	1,492.55 (1,851.91)
Other Family	180 (215)	80,570 (88,272)	447.61 (410.57)
	5,142 (5,501)	$ 3,007,821 (3,029,656)	$ 584.95 (550.75)

Note: *As of March 31, 2001 there were approximately 12,314 cases yet to be completed and paid compared to 14,821 in the previous year.*

Legal Aid Fees and Disbursements by Area
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

	Total Fees and Disbursements	Completed Cases	Average Cost Per Case
CRIMINAL ADULT			
Brandon	206,405 (130,762)	396 (375)	521.22 (348.70)
Dauphin	120,052 (119,628)	306 (339)	392.33 (352.89)
The Pas & Thompson	241,761 (294,096)	581 (607)	416.11 (484.51)
Winnipeg	2,879,801 (2,596,871)	4,401 (4,367)	654.35 (594.66)
CRIMINAL YOUTH			
Brandon	29,424 (40,025)	82 (105)	358.83 (381.19)
Dauphin	20,299 (32,836)	45 (71)	451.09 (462.48)
The Pas & Thompson	50,165 (44,760)	107 (100)	468.83 (447.60)
Winnipeg	431,704 (385,443)	995 (956)	433.87 (403.18)
CIVIL			
Brandon	157,995 (181,206)	296 (445)	533.77 (407.20)
Dauphin	102,492 (107,461)	206 (232)	497.53 (463.20)
The Pas & Thompson	154,858 (164,578)	334 (387)	463.65 (425.27)
Winnipeg	2,592,477 (2,576,410)	4,306 (4,437)	602.06 (580.66)
	$ 6,987,433 (6,674,077)	12,055 (12,421)	$ 579.63 (537.32)

NOTE: Reconciliation to private bar fees and disbursements disclosed on the financial statements:

Fees and disbursements per private system as above	*$ 6,987,433*
Add: Accruals	*(35,331)*
Less: Repayment of Holdback	*208,431*
Fees and disbursements on an accrual basis as per the financial statements	*$ 7,160,533*

Duty Counsel Fees and Disbursements
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

	Total Fees and Disbursements	Persons Assisted	Average Cost Per Case
Brandon	1,604	32	50.12
	(1,416)	(49)	(28.89)
Dauphin	1,001	13	77.04
	(3,184)	(110)	(28.94)
The Pas & Thompson	41,338	1,063	38.89
	(31,266)	(818)	(38.22)
Winnipeg	26,224	687	38.17
	(17,759)	(688)	(25.81)
	$ 70,168	1,795	$ 39.09
	(53,624)	(1,665)	(32.21)

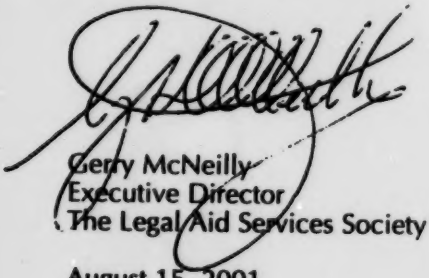
NOTE: The financial statements show total duty counsel disbursements of $206,659. That figure includes disbursements of $13,335 for Age and Opportunity, $32,796 for on-call duty counsel, $25,122 for Portage Legal Services, $9,658 for Thompson Legal Services and, $47,477 for The Pas Legal Services and, $8,103 for communication and travel costs recorded in the fiscal year.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The accompanying financial statements of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba are the responsibility of management and have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies stated in Note 2 to the financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2001.

As management is responsible for the integrity of the financial statements, management has established systems of internal control to provide reasonable assurance that assets are properly accounted for and safeguarded from loss.

The responsibility of the Provincial Auditor is to express an independent professional opinion on whether the financial statements are fairly presented in accordance with the accounting policies stated in the financial statements. The Auditor's Report outlines the scope of the audit examination and provides the audit opinion.



Gerry McNeilly
Executive Director
The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba

August 15, 2001

Office of the Provincial Auditor

500 - 330 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
CANADA R3C 0C4

AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba
To the Board of Directors of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba

We have audited the balance sheet of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba as at March 31, 2001 and the statements of revenue and expenditure and net assets and cash flow for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Society's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba as at March 31, 2001 and the results of its operations and its cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies stated in note 2 to the financial statements.

Office of the Provincial Auditor

Office of the Provincial Auditor

Winnipeg, Manitoba
August 21, 2001

Balance Sheet
as at March 31, 2001
(with 2000 figures for comparison)

	2001	2000
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank	$ 434,398	$ 558,750
Funds on deposit with Minister of Finance		
Client accounts receivable, net (Note 3)	986,487	960,809
Receivable from the Province of Manitoba	77,000	106,000
Other receivables, net (Note 4)	83,405	103,524
Prepaid expense	276,951	63,155
	1,858,241	1,792,238
Long-term receivable - severance - Province of Manitoba (Note 5)	716,166	716,166
Long-term receivable - pension - Province of Manitoba (Note 12)	7,254,785	6,432,631
	$ 9,829,192	$ 8,941,035
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	$ 921,879	$ 754,964
Accrued vacation pay	649,912	631,671
Deferred revenue from clients	352,215	348,009
Deferred contribution from Province of Manitoba (Note 6)	30,000	170,770
	1,954,006	1,905,414
Severance liability (Note 6)	895,503	843,227
Provision for employee pension benefits (note 12)	7,254,785	6,432,631
Net Assets	(275,102)	(240,237)
	$ 9,829,192	$ 8,941,035

Approved by the Board

Chairperson

Director

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Statement of Revenue and Expenditure, and Net Assets
for the year ended March 31, 2001
(with 2000 figures for comparison)

	2001	2000
Revenue		
Province of Manitoba (Note 7)	$ 14,656,891	$ 14,178,983
Manitoba Law Foundation (Note 8)	1,523,935	1,687,438
Contributions from clients	989,074	914,303
Recoveries from third parties	680,238	639,459
Government of Canada	3,116	1,593
Judgment costs and settlements	162,854	139,115
Interest income	40,591	29,534
Other	2,982	0
	$ 18,059,681	$ 17,590,425
Expenditure		
Private bar fees and disbursements, net (Note 11)		
Legal aid certificates	$ 7,160,533	$ 6,918,329
Duty counsel services	208,911	135,109
Transcripts and Other Contributed Services	84,384	84,893
	7,453,828	7,138,331
Community Law Centres, Schedule 1	6,660,125	6,683,091
Public Interest Law Centre, Schedule 1	489,015	534,231
University Law Centre, Schedule 1	73,604	77,236
General and administrative, Schedule 1	3,417,974	3,413,900
	$ 18,094,546	$ 17,846,789
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditure, operations	(34,865)	(256,364)
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditure, special trial (note 6)	0	0
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditure	(34,865)	(256,364)
Net Assets, beginning of year	(240,237)	16,127
Net Assets, end of year	$ (275,102)	$ (240,237)

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Statement of Cash Flow
for the year ended March 31, 2001
(with 2000 figures for comparison)

	2001	2000
Cash Flow Provided by (Used In) Operating Activities:		
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditure for the year	$ (34,865)	$ (256,364)
Add (deduct) items not affecting cash		
Bad Debt Expense	318,936	321,251
Changes in working capital:		
Client accounts receivable	(344,614)	(339,346)
Province of Manitoba receivable	29,000	(106,000)
Other receivables	20,119	2,845
Prepaid expense	(213,796)	(2,041)
Accounts payable and accrued vacation pay	185,156	334,968
Deferred revenue	4,206	31,283
Deferred contribution from Province of Manitoba	(140,770)	16,656
	(176,628)	3,274
Cash Flow Provided by (Used In) Financing Activities:		
Increase in long-term funding commitments	(822,154)	(728,009)
Increase in severance liability	52,276	77,937
Increase in provision for employee pension benefits	822,154	728,009
	52,276	77,937
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash for the Year	(124,352)	81,211
Cash - Beginning of Year	558,750	477,539
Cash - End of Year	434,398	558,750

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Schedule of Expenditures
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with 2000 figures for comparison)

	COMMUNITY LAW CENTRES		PUBLIC INTEREST LAW CENTRE		UNIVERSITY LAW CENTRE		GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE		TOTAL	
	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000
Advertising	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	17,774	$ 16,330	$ 17,774	$ 16,330
Bad debts	0	0	0	0	0	0	310,839	321,251	310,839	321,251
Bank charges	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,980	1,852	1,980	1,852
Board expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	29,403	31,319	29,403	31,319
Collection costs	0	0	0	0	0	0	16,815	16,810	16,815	16,810
Computer costs	9,281	64,798	149	5,788	0	0	28,656	97,340	38,106	167,925
Duty counsel	66,871	100,480	0	0	0	0	2,864	3,360	69,255	103,840
Equipment maintenance	73,231	57,804	9,667	3,810	0	0	29,650	24,940	111,528	86,354
Expert witnesses & consultants	0	0	41,822	66,811	0	0	0	0	41,822	66,811
File disbursements	238,499	250,044	51,822	63,217	984	1,178	7,341	8,068	298,328	321,028
Furniture and equipment, net of disposals	12,109	68,231	2,771	5,819	0	0	1,850	30,129	16,730	103,979
Library	44,982	43,184	8,409	9,880	332	334	20,414	11,671	74,107	65,069
Meetings	11,738	9,402	0	384	50	0	14,588	19,499	26,376	29,285
Office expenses	138,379	150,333	13,266	15,322	2,380	3,178	129,401	122,469	283,515	291,343
Office relocation	22,290	2,875	0	479	0	0	720	5,281	23,010	8,415
Pension costs (note 12)	0	0	0	0	0	0	863,842	759,862	863,842	759,862
Premise costs	365,820	375,489	17,814	17,739	7	0	112,945	114,380	521,486	507,578
Professional fees	123,823	136,468	8,809	11,779	5,380	10,809	97,021	116,913	235,052	275,849
Salaries, benefits and levy	5,130,838	5,027,833	318,832	317,445	80,379	57,009	1,594,833	1,508,222	7,074,882	6,910,299
Severance Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0	62,575	77,937	62,575	77,937
Staff development	30,630	25,277	4,844	4,466	0	0	9,158	48,882	44,420	78,314
Staff recruitment	4,881	3,344	100	0	0	0	0	0	4,781	3,344
Telephone	107,841	107,130	3,951	5,364	1,888	1,778	73,709	58,155	187,349	172,425
Transcripts and Other Contributed Services	78,883	68,800	0	0	0	0	0	0	78,883	68,800
Travel	147,228	151,889	6,280	7,889	3,334	3,281	14,012	19,881	170,848	182,982
TOTAL	$ 6,966,128	$ 7,063,241	$ 498,915	$ 534,251	$ 73,854	$ 77,236	$ 3,417,974	$ 3,413,900	$ 10,940,716	$ 10,708,464

Notes to Financial Statements
for the year ended March 31, 2001

1. Nature of the Society

The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba (the Society) was established by an Act of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba.

The objects of the Society, as set out in the Act, are:

- to provide legal advice and services to individuals, groups and organizations who, left to their own means, could not afford to retain the service of a lawyer.

- to furnish legal aid advice to groups and organizations involving matters of an interest common to members of the group and relating to issues of public interest such as, but not restricted to, consumer and environmental issues.

The Society is economically dependent upon the Province of Manitoba. Other revenue sources include the Manitoba Law Foundation, individual clients, and third party agencies.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

a) Accounting Basis

The financial statements are prepared on an accrual basis of accounting except for:

i) Private bar fees and disbursements which are recognized as expenditures based on lawyers' billings dates rather than the dates of providing required services.

ii) Capital Assets are charged to operations in the year acquired. Proceeds of disposal are reflected as reductions to expenditures.

b) Recognition of Contributions from Clients

Clients may be required to pay a portion or all of the legal costs incurred on their behalf by the Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba based on the clients' ability to pay.

i) Agreements to Pay

Clients who are able to pay, sign an agreement to pay for their portion of the applicable legal costs. The amount the client is required to pay is specified on the legal aid certificate. The revenue and receivable are recognized when the certificate is signed.

ii) Expanded Eligibility

Under terms of expanded eligibility, clients are required to pay all of the legal costs and an administration fee of 25%. The revenue and receivable are recognized based on the date of the lawyer's billing.

iii) Charges on Land

Charges on Land are registered under Section 17 of the Legal Aid Services Society Act in Land Titles on property owned by clients. The revenue and receivable are recognized at the later of the date the lien is filed or the date of the

lawyer's billing. Collection of these accounts in the future is dependent on the client disposing of the property or arranging for payment.

c) Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

An allowance for doubtful accounts is recorded against receivables based on a specific review of accounts, except for the allowance against charges on land, which is recorded at 50% of the outstanding balance.

d) Contributed Services

Under an arrangement between the Society and the Department of Justice, the Department provides transcripts and other services to the Society at no cost. The value of these contributed services is recorded as revenue and as an expenditure.

e) Measurement Uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingencies at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

f) Pension Plan

Employees of the Society are pensionable under the Civil Service Superannuation Act. The Corporation accrues a provision for the liability for the employer's share of employee pension benefits, including future cost of living adjustments, based on an actuarial valuation.

g) Financial Instruments

Legal Aid Services Society's financial instruments consist of cash, short-term investments, accounts receivable, accounts payable, and accrued liabilities. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Society is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments. The fair value of these financial instruments approximates their carrying values.

3. Client Accounts Receivable, net

	2001	2000
Agreements to Pay	$ 55,734	$ 63,188
Expanded Eligibility	375,421	416,444
Charges on Land	1,627,663	1,538,391
	2,058,818	2,018,023
Less: Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	1,072,331	1,057,214
Clients Accounts Receivable, net	$ 986,487	$ 960,809

4. Other Receivables, net

	2001	2000
Court Costs	$ 198,229	$ 188,501
Child & Family Services	3,970	9,606
Social Services	68,785	82,728
Employee Advances and GST Recoverable	4,227	3,081
	275,211	283,916
Less: Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	191,806	180,392
Other Receivables, net	$ 83,405	$ 103,524

5. Severance pay benefits

Effective April 1, 1998, Legal Aid is recording accumulated severance pay benefits for their employees. Severance pay is determined by multiplying years of service, to a maximum of fifteen years, by the weekly salary at date of retirement, provided the employee reaches nine years of service and retires from Legal Aid. The estimate is based upon the method of calculation set by the Province of Manitoba.

The Province accepted responsibility for the severance benefits accumulated by Legal Aid employees to March 31, 1998. Accordingly, the opening severance pay liability balance as at April 1, 1998 of $716,166 was completely offset by a receivable from the Province. There are no terms of repayment for the receivable, and the amount will remain fixed at $716,166.

6. Special Trial

During the fiscal year ended March 31, 1999, Legal Aid retained counsel for a number of accused under a special order from the Province of Manitoba. These retainers are not governed by Legal Aid tariff or regulations but are a special agreement between the Private Bar and Legal Aid. All funding received from the Province of Manitoba for this trial is restricted solely for expenditures incurred in the process of defending those accused. Any funding not committed at the end of the special trial must be returned to the Province of Manitoba.

	2001	2000
Revenue from the Province of Manitoba	$ 1,342,715	$ 1,816,360
Expenditures, Private Bar and Staff	1,342,715	1,816,360
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditure	$ 0	$ 0

At March 31, 2001, Legal Aid was holding $30,000 in deferred contributions from the Province of Manitoba pertaining to this special trial. The main trial was completed within the fiscal year, however final assessment of billings related to appeal proceedings are still outstanding.

7. Revenue from the Province of Manitoba

	2001	2000
Grant	$ 7,691,605	$ 7,393,120
Salaries and other payments	6,243,761	6,065,741
Health and post secondary education tax levy	132,360	129,284
Employer portion of employee benefits	426,128	416,345
Contributed Services	163,037	174,493
	$ 14,656,891	$ 14,178,983

Funding from the Province of Manitoba includes the Society's share of provisions recorded for unfunded pension liabilities.

8. Revenue from the Manitoba Law Foundation

	2001	2000
Statutory Grant	$ 1,328,935	$ 1,492,438
Public Interest Law Centre	150,000	150,000
University Law Centre	45,000	45,000
	$ 1,523,935	$ 1,687,438

A statutory grant, pursuant to subsection 65(1) of The Law Society Act, is received annually from The Manitoba Law Foundation. The Society's share under the Act is 50% of the total interest on lawyers' trust accounts as received by the Foundation or a minimum of $1,007,629, whichever is greater. In the event that interest received by the Foundation in the preceding year, after deduction of the Foundation's operational expenses, is not sufficient to pay the statutory minimum of $1,007,629 to The Legal Aid Services Society, the Act provides for pro-rata sharing of the net interest.

For March, 2001 the amount of the grant exceeded the minimum due to higher interest rates during 1999/2000 and the level of lawyer trust accounts.

Other grants from The Manitoba Law Foundation are received pursuant to subsection 65(4) of The Law Society Act. These grants are restricted for the Public Interest Law Centre and the University Law Centre. At March 31, 2001, there were no unrestricted funds remaining from these grants.

9. Commitments

i) Lease

The Society rents facilities under operating leases. Unpaid remaining commitments under the leases, which expire at varying dates to March 31, 2006 are:

2002	$ 402,042
2003	$ 273,852
2004	$ 243,001
2005	$ 243,001
2006	$ 243,001
	$1,404,897

ii) Private Bar

Estimated total commitments for future billings on outstanding legal aid certificates amount to $6,293,000 as at March 31, 2001 (2000 - $7,284,000).

10. Related Parties Transactions

The Society is related in terms of common ownership to all Province of Manitoba created departments, agencies and crown corporations. The Society enters into transactions with these entities in the normal course of business.

Private Bar Fees and Disbursements, net

	Fees	Disbursements	2001 Total	2000 Total
Legal Aid Certificates	$ 6,189,110	$1,011,150	$ 7,200,260	$ 7,045,807
Reduction in fees	(231,590)	0	(231,590)	(346,517)
Holdback Repayment	191,863	0	191,863	219,039
	6,149,383	$1,011,150	7,160,533	6,918,329
Duty Counsel	209,773	0	209,773	136,250
Reduction in fees	(2,502)	0	(2,502)	(3,172)
Holdback Repayment	1,640	0	1,640	2,031
	208,911	0	208,911	135,109
Transcripts and Other Contributed Services	0	84,384	84,384	84,893
Net	$ 6,358,294	$1,095,534	$ 7,453,828	$ 7,138,331

For March 31, 2001 the reduction in private bar fees totaled $234,092 (2000 - $349,689). Subsequent to the year end, the Board has determined that $210,683 will be refunded for private bar fees reduced during 2000/01. The amount of the repayment is reflected above.

Since 1992 the private bar fees have been reduced by a percentage determined by the Board. The specific reduction applied to the private bar fees is the reduction in fees approved by the Board relating to the year in which the legal aid file was opened. For March 31, 2001 the percentage reduction in fees approved by the Board was set at 5% for criminal matters only. There is no liability for the reduction of fees held back beyond the distribution approved by the Board each year.

12. Provision for Employee Pension Benefits

Pension costs consist of the employer's share of pension benefits paid to retired employees, as well as the increase in the unfunded pension liability during the fiscal year. This liability is determined by an actuarial valuation every three years with the balances for the intervening years being determined by formula provided by the actuary. The most recent valuation was completed as at December 31, 1998 by Ellement & Ellement Ltd., Consulting Actuaries.

	2001	2000
Balance at beginning of year	$ 6,432,631	$ 5,704,622
Benefits accrued	379,401	324,550
Interest accrued on benefits	484,440	434,332
Benefits paid	(41,687)	(30,873)
Balance at end of year	$ 7,254,785	$ 6,432,631

The key actuarial assumptions were a rate of return of 7% (1995 - 7.5%), 3% inflation (1995 - 3.75%), salary rate increases of 4.5% (1995 - 5.5%) and post retirement indexing at 2/3 of the inflation rate. The entry age normal actuarial cost method was used and the liabilities have been extrapolated to March 31, 2001 using a formula provided by the actuary.

The Province of Manitoba has accepted responsibility for the unfunded pension liability. Accordingly the provision for employee pension benefits is offset by a receivable from the Province of Manitoba. There are no terms of repayment for this receivable.

13. Public Sector Compensation Disclosure

For the purposes of the Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act, all compensation for employees, Board members and the private bar fees and disbursements from The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba is disclosed in a separate statement.

Office of the Provincial Auditor

500 - 330 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
CANADA R3C 0C4

AUDITORS' REPORT
Supplementary Financial Information Prepared in Accordance with The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act

To the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba, and
To the Board of Directors of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba

We have audited the Statement of Compensation Paid to Board Members and Employees and the Statement of Private Bar Fees and Disbursements in Excess of $50,000 for The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba for the year ended March 31, 2001 prepared in accordance with Sections 2 and 4 of The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act. This financial information is the responsibility of the management of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial information based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial information is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial information. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial information.

In our opinion, these statements present fairly, in all material respects, the compensation payments to board members and employees, and payments to persons providing legal aid services for the year ended March 31, 2001 by The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba in accordance with the provisions of The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act.

Office of the Provincial Auditor

Office of the Provincial Auditor

Winnipeg, Manitoba
August 21, 2001

The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba
Statement of Private Bar Fees and Disbursements in Excess of $50,000
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(Prepared in accordance with Section 4 of the Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act)

Name of Firm	Amount
PHILLIPS, AIELLO	689,878.54
CASSIDY, RAMSAY	684,751.69
BRODSKY & COMPANY	333,454.09
GINDIN, WOLSON, SIMMONDS	296,253.21
SAHEEL ZAMAN LAW OFFICE	280,713.25
SMITH, DUNCAN	189,134.20
HUNT, MILLER & COMBS	188,408.64
PINX ROITENBERG CAMPBELL	175,779.02
LOFCHICK, JONES & ASSOC.	164,646.71
LEGAL AID MANITOBA	152,054.73
JOYCEY, VANDONGEN	138,378.14
ARCHER PHILLIPS LAW OFFICE	137,237.52
MYERS WEINBERG KUSSIN	122,962.95
KILLEEN CHAPMAN	113,128.41
EDMOND - MUIR	102,289.79
KOHAYKEWYCH & ASSOC.	93,580.14
SANDIP SETT	91,276.90
GISELE CHAMPAGNE	91,151.40
JOHN DOVENER WHITE	90,517.43
SIMS & COMPANY	88,790.70
SKINNER LAW OFFICE	73,524.95
STANLEY S. NOZICK	69,542.10
MARTIN GLAZER LAW OFFICE	69,177.43
Z. IAN GARBER	68,891.66
ROBERTSON SHYPIT SOBLE	65,101.97
JODY BROWN	63,877.65
GINNELL, BAUMAN & ASSOC.	61,873.17
POOLE LAW OFFICE	60,717.64
BILL ARMSTRONG	59,610.18
CHAPMAN, GODDARD, KAGAN	59,325.21
HELIX BIOTECH CORP.	55,970.40
BOOTH, DENNEHY	55,783.63
IRWIN LAW OFFICE	55,699.80
ROXROY WEST	54,989.81
EDMOND MURPHY	54,094.82
WOLCHOCK & COMPANY	54,052.44
WILDER WILDER & ASSOC.	52,481.21
PERLOV STEWART LINCOLN	52,261.93
SINCLAIR &ASSOCIATES	50,693.49
McCOY LAW OFFICE	50,520.67

The payments reflected in this statement are on a cash basis, net of the private bar reduction in fees.

The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba
Statement of Compensation Paid to Board Members and Employees
For the year Ended March 31,2001
(Prepared in accordance with Section 2 of the Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act)

Paid to Board Members:	
In aggregate	$24,839.00

Paid to employees in excess of $50,000:

Name	Position	Amount
McNeilly, G.K.	Executive Director	$92,750.16
Klassen, R.G.	Deputy Director	88,563.19
Dunn, W.	Legal Director	85,699.01
Merrett,W.	Area Director	85,699.01
McDonald, T.	Supervising Attorney	85,139.94
Malcolm, W.L.	Supervising Attorney	84,431.70
Tailleur, L.J.	Supervising Attorney	83,687.77
Clifford. G.	Supervising Attorney	82,940.74
Peltz, A.	Director	82,929.54
Allen, H.L.	Supervising Attorney	82,671.59
Sandhu, F.H.	Supervising Attorney	82,588.89
Sherman, C.D.	Supervising Attorney	82,588.89
Koturbash, T.M.	Supervising Attorney	81,703.83
Giesbrecht, L.B.	Supervising Attorney	81,434.68
Paluk, M.D.	Supervising Attorney	81,434.68
Pitts, H.	Staff Attorney	79,949.56
Birks, C.G..	Staff Attorney	78,901.59
Cadloff, K.A.	Staff Attorney	78,901.59
Grafton, R.N.	Staff Attorney	78,901.59
Peters, H.C.	Staff Attorney	78,901.59
Hawryah, G.B.	Staff Attorney	78,818.89
Hwozdulych, B.A.	Staff Attorney	78,818.89
Krause, R.	Staff Attorney	77,933.83
Brecht, R.B.	Staff Attorney	77,664.68
Chartrand, L.R.	Staff Attorney	77,664.68
Dzydz, D.	Staff Attorney	77,664.68
Hart, M. E.	Staff Attorney	77,664.68
Heinrichs, R.M.	Staff Attorney	77,664.68
MacAulay,G.G.	Staff Attorney	77,664.68
Walker, M.	Staff Attorney	77,664.68
Congdon, W.J.G.	Staff Attorney	76,804.68
Bates,G.D.	Staff Attorney	76,398.11
Paula, C.	Staff Attorney	74,483.22
Roller, C.C.	Staff Attorney	72,118.58
McCaffrey, K. M.	Staff Attorney	71,871.76
McGarry, A.B.	Staff Attorney	71,291.25
Williams, J.B.	Staff Attorney	69,231.39
Harbottle, S.M.	Staff Attorney	68,798.81
Zlotnick, M.	Staff Attorney	68,293.54
Ramsay, J.	MIS Director	66,152.53
Neustaeter, J.G.	Staff Attorney	65,551.47
Libman, A.M.	Staff Attorney	64,007.79
Glowacki, L.J.	Staff Attorney	63,989.06
Connor, M.	Staff Attorney	62,812.20
Kingsley, P.	Staff Attorney	61,221.55
Baineaves,S.	Information Services Officier	59,522.51
Makar, M. S.	Staff Attorney	59,353.60
Johnston, S.	Staff Attorney	54,687.55
Dwarka, R.	Director of Administration	52,857.37

Rapport annuel de la Société d'aide juridique du Manitoba

2001

VINGT-NEUVIÈME RAPPORT ANNUEL

DE LA SOCIÉTÉ D'AIDE JURIDIQUE DU MANITOBA

Pour l'exercice terminé le 31 mars 2001

Monsieur Gord Mackintosh
Ministre de la Justice
Palais législatif, bureau 104
Winnipeg (Manitoba)
R3C 0V8

Monsieur le Ministre,

J'ai l'honneur de vous présenter le vingt-neuvième rapport annuel de la Société d'aide juridique du Manitoba pour l'exercice terminé le 31 mars 2001, conformément à l'article 28 de la *Loi sur la Société d'aide juridique du Manitoba*.

Le rapport comprend des données statistiques détaillées sur notre clientèle, les causes dont nous nous sommes occupés et nos coûts. Le rapport du vérificateur provincial et nos états financiers y sont annexés. Y sont également joints l'état vérifié de la rémunération des administrateurs et des employés ainsi que l'état des débours et des honoraires des avocats de cabinets privés excédant 50 000 $, conformément aux articles 2 et 4 de la *Loi sur la divulgation de la rémunération dans le secteur public*.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Ministre, l'assurance de mon plus profond respect.

Le président
du conseil d'administration,

David Schioler

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Le bureau du droit de la famille

Le bureau d'aide juridique spécialisé dans la protection de la jeunesse

Le centre des procès criminels

Le centre de consultations ouvertes

Le centre communautaire d'aide juridique de Broadway

Le bureau d'aide juridique du centre Autochtone

Le centre communautaire d'aide juridique de la région de l'ouest

Le centre communautaire d'aide juridique de la région des Parcs

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RAPPORT DU PRÉSIDENT DU CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION

Pendant tout l'exercice terminé le 31 mars 2001, la Société d'aide juridique du Manitoba a offert des conseils et des services juridiques complets de haute qualité aux particuliers, aux groupes et aux organisations qui n'ont pas les moyens de payer une partie ou la totalité de l'aide juridique qui leur est fournie. Le conseil d'administration est heureux de constater encore une fois que la Société a été capable de maintenir sa norme élevée de service grâce à une direction assurée et à l'excellent travail, aux connaissances et à la compétence de ses cadres administratifs et de son personnel. Le conseil tient aussi à souligner l'assistance inestimable reçue des avocats de cabinets privés et de leur personnel cette année pour la prestation de services d'aide juridique à la population manitobaine.

Conseil d'administration

Le conseil est heureux de rapporter que la direction de la Société a été entre bonnes mains encore cette année. Le conseil en place pour l'exercice 2000-2001 était composé de personnes qui ont apporté et qui apportent beaucoup à l'Aide juridique du Manitoba en veillant à ce que le conseil ait toujours de la valeur pour la Société. Le conseil a continué d'adopter des politiques réfléchies et novatrices et d'appuyer les efforts de l'administration et du personnel.

Je tiens à souligner particulièrement la contribution des personnes suivantes, qui ont fait partie du conseil cette année.

Roger Kane
Corinne Armbruster
Bill Malcolm
Lori Ferguson-Sain
Joan Harris
Vic Bargen
John Atamanchuk
Rob Dewar
Brian Preston
Marietta Pellettieri
Barb Filuk

Je souhaite la bienvenue aux personnes suivantes, qui se joignent à nous pour l'exercice 2001-2002.

Bill Armstrong
George Muswaggon
Marlene Campbell
Grace Buhr
Diane Dzydz

Notre recours à des comités a continué de favoriser l'optimisation de la qualité de la prestation des services d'aide juridique et d'assurer la bonne gestion financière de la Société. À des fins d'efficacité fiscale, le conseil a combiné, chaque fois que possible, l'heure de ses réunions et des réunions du comité exécutif et du comité des finances.

Comme nous l'avons indiqué dans nos rapports annuels précédents, le conseil d'administration de la Société d'aide juridique sert aussi d'organe d'arbitrage en cas d'appel. Le conseil entend les appels des décisions prises par le directeur exécutif relativement à la taxation des comptes des avocats

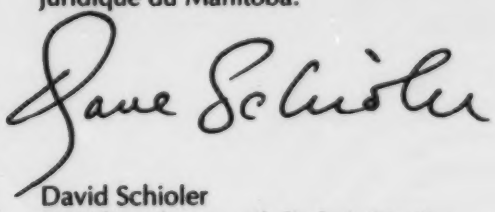
de cabinets privés et à l'admissibilité des demandeurs d'aide juridique, tant pour ce qui est du type d'affaire que sur le plan financier. Je suis heureux de rapporter encore une fois que les membres du conseil, y compris les nouveaux membres, se sont acquittés de leurs responsabilités à cet égard avec une grande compétence.

Administration et personnel

Le conseil tient à reconnaître le rôle joué par l'administration de la Société pour assurer la prestation de services de qualité aux clients de l'Aide juridique au cours de l'année. Nous voulons aussi signaler, encore une fois, le travail de notre directeur exécutif, Gerry McNeilly, qui a aidé à porter la Société à un nouveau niveau dans l'élaboration et la mise en œuvre de politiques stratégiques. Le conseil entend encourager et appuyer son directeur exécutif en joignant ses efforts aux siens pour offrir des services d'aide juridique de qualité aux clients de la Société. Cette année, M. McNeilly se propose de dresser un plan stratégique pour la Société d'aide juridique du Manitoba, en consultation avec le conseil et le personnel. Il a entrepris d'importantes initiatives de formation et de perfectionnement, notamment dans les domaines de la médiation (règlement extrajudiciaire des litiges), des connaissances en informatique et de la stratégie. M. McNeilly a aussi travaillé activement à la promotion de la Société à l'échelle nationale, se portant ainsi à la défense des Canadiens qui sont les plus susceptibles de profiter des services d'aide juridique. À cet égard, notre directeur exécutif a assumé un rôle de meneur dans le groupe de travail fédéral-provincial permanent sur le financement de l'aide juridique. Le conseil continuera de promouvoir et d'encourager la formation et le perfectionnement de l'administration et du personnel afin d'améliorer la qualité des services fournis aux clients de l'Aide juridique du Manitoba.

Conclusion

En conclusion, je veux remercier encore une fois l'administration et le personnel de l'Aide juridique pour leur travail, ainsi que les avocats de cabinets privés du Manitoba pour leur immense aide et collaboration. Ces efforts nous ont permis de continuer d'offrir des services juridiques de qualité aux particuliers, aux groupes et aux organisations qui ont fait appel à l'Aide juridique du Manitoba.



David Schioler
Président du conseil d'administration

RAPPORT DU DIRECTEUR EXÉCUTIF

Une autre année de terminée. Nous avons fait quelques changements et entrepris divers projets, dont certains avaient été entamés au cours de l'exercice précédent.

Nous avons aussi réussi à recevoir des hausses budgétaires du gouvernement. Nous pourrons ainsi continuer d'améliorer notre service à la clientèle, ce qui était un de nos principaux buts pour 1999-2000.

Il y a encore eu des changements au conseil d'administration de la Société. De nouveaux membres y ont été nommés, remplaçant certains visages familiers. Je tiens à remercier John Atamanchuk, Roger Kane, Bill Malcolm, Corinne Armbruster et Joan Harris d'avoir donné de leur temps pour que l'Aide juridique du Manitoba soit le meilleur programme possible.

Nouveautés

1. Modification des tarifs

Une des rares tâches déplaisantes dont j'aie eu à m'occuper avec le conseil a été le maintien de la retenue sur tous les mandats pour les causes criminelles et juvéniles. Cette retenue, instituée il y a quelques années, a été maintenue pendant tout l'exercice. Ce qui est encourageant, toutefois, c'est qu'elle est aujourd'hui de 5 % (elle a déjà été de 12 %) et que nous progressons vers son élimination complète. Je serai heureux de voir ce jour arriver et d'en informer les avocats de cabinets privés.

Une bonne nouvelle est qu'une des hausses budgétaires entrée en vigueur le 1er août 2000 visait le barème des tarifs. Les tarifs ont augmenté de 6,7 % dans tous les domaines. C'était la première augmentation depuis 1988. Le nouveau tarif horaire est de 48 $. Bien que cela soit le plus bas tarif horaire de tous les programmes d'aide juridique canadiens, nous continuons de chercher d'autres moyens de financement pour rendre notre barème de tarifs plus compétitif.

Au cours du prochain exercice, nous formerons un « comité de revue des tarifs » qui sera chargé de dresser un plan à l'appui d'une hausse des tarifs.

2. Critères d'admissibilité financière

Depuis le 1er août 2000, encore une fois à cause de la hausse de notre budget, l'Aide juridique a pu réviser et améliorer ses critères d'admissibilité financière, ce qui nous permet d'offrir des services à davantage de gens. Les nouveaux critères reflètent les seuils de faible revenu (SFR) fédéraux de 1994. C'est la première modification et amélioration de ces critères depuis 1990, où ils avaient été établis d'après les SFR de 1987. Nous espérons que d'autres hausses nous permettront de porter nos critères d'admissibilité aux SFR actuels.

3. Fusion de bureaux

Dans l'évaluation et la restructuration de notre organisation, nous avons décidé qu'une fusion de certains de nos bureaux s'imposait. Nous avons regroupé le Centre de droit familial et le bureau de la rue Main en un seul bureau appelé le Bureau du droit de la famille. Ce bureau est situé dans le même immeuble que notre bureau administratif, soit au 294, avenue Portage, au 3e étage. Le Bureau du droit des pauvres est aussi au même étage tandis que le Bureau spécialisé dans la protection de la jeunesse a trouvé place à un autre étage du même immeuble, terminant les déménagements pour l'année.

Nous avons l'intention de fusionner davantage ces bureaux, afin que toutes les affaires qui relèvent du droit de la famille soient traitées au même endroit.

La fusion de notre bureau pour adultes et adolescents de l'avenue Broadway et de notre Centre des procès criminels est encore en train. Nous voulons être certains de trouver le meilleur emplacement possible, d'accès facile pour nos clients mais aussi à proximité des tribunaux.

4. Participation au programme *Pour l'amour des enfants*

Le programme *Pour l'amour des enfants* a été institué au Manitoba en 1997. Ce programme fournit aux parents de l'information et des séances de formation pour les aider à répondre aux besoins de leurs enfants après une séparation ou un divorce. L'Aide juridique du Manitoba remet une brochure à tous ses clients qui vivent un problème de séparation, de divorce, d'accès ou de garde des enfants. Cette brochure décrit les objectifs du programme et donne un numéro que les clients peuvent appeler s'ils veulent s'y inscrire.

Nous nous attendons à ce que tous les clients qui ont obtenu un mandat de l'Aide juridique et dont l'affaire touche à un problème de garde des enfants ou d'accès suivent le programme *Pour l'amour des enfants*. Leur refus de le faire est un facteur dont nous tenons compte au moment d'approuver le procès dans notre processus de gestion de l'affaire.

5. Plan d'activités de la Société

Depuis mon entrée en fonction en octobre 1998, j'ai introduit un plan d'activités que j'estime essentiel à la mise en place d'un programme d'assurance de la qualité qui englobe tous les aspects de la prestation et de la qualité des services de l'Aide juridique du Manitoba et de son respect des politiques. Il s'agit d'un document permanent et donc d'une œuvre en cours d'élaboration. Je suis heureux de rapporter que certaines des mesures proposées dans le plan ont été mises en œuvre, notamment la modification des circuits des tribunaux itinérants, l'institution d'initiatives de collaboration entre avocats et la signature de contrats spécialisés avec les avocats de cabinets privés.

6. Pendant l'été 2000, nous avons passé onze (11) contrats spécialisés

avec des avocats de cabinets privés relativement à l'offre de services en droit familial. Ces contrats ont allégé dans une certaine mesure les difficultés que nous éprouvons à placer les mandats de droit familial auprès d'avocats de cabinets privés. Jusqu'à maintenant, ce projet a donné de très bons résultats. Nous continuons de chercher des moyens novateurs d'encourager les avocats à accepter les mandats d'aide juridique.

7. Nous avons aussi transféré la responsabilité de certains des circuits des tribunaux itinérants à des avocats privés. Le motif de cette décision est de permettre à notre personnel de se concentrer davantage sur l'assistance individuelle.

Nous envisageons d'autres initiatives du même genre pour améliorer notre service. Nous les mettrons sur pied au cours du prochain exercice.

8. Voici certaines initiatives que nous nous proposons de mettre en œuvre au cours du prochain exercice :

a) Encourager le travail en collaboration dans les affaires de droit de la famille
b) Commettre des avocats de service offrant une gamme complète de services dans les causes de protection de la jeunesse
c) Continuer la fusion et le déménagement de nos bureaux
d) Finaliser notre plan d'activités quinquennal

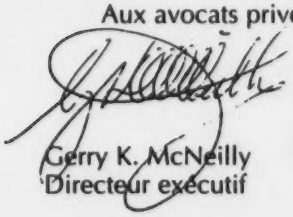
L'Aide juridique du Manitoba fait face à de nombreux défis, le plus important étant celui de répondre à la demande sans cesse croissante de services d'aide juridique avec des fonds limités.

Nous sommes aussi aux prises avec la « disparition » de l'avocat. Je veux dire par là qu'il n'y a pas exactement foule d'avocats de cabinets privés prêts à accepter les mandats d'aide juridique. Sans vouloir être alarmiste, je peux dire que nous approchons d'une situation de crise pour le placement des mandats d'aide juridique auprès d'avocats privés. Par conséquent, nous demandons aux avocats privés de nous aider en encourageant leurs collègues à recommencer à accepter les causes de l'Aide juridique.

Le personnel de l'Aide juridique continue de faire un excellent travail. La demande ne cesse d'augmenter et il continue pourtant d'être à la hauteur et d'y répondre, tout en fournissant un service de haute qualité aux clients.

À tout le personnel, merci de votre dévouement à l'organisation et à la population du Manitoba.

Aux avocats privés, merci d'appuyer l'Aide juridique.



Gerry K. McNeilly
Directeur exécutif

LE CENTRE CHARGÉ DES QUESTIONS JURIDIQUES D'INTÉRÊT PUBLIC

Le mandat du Centre chargé des questions juridiques d'intérêt public est de représenter les groupes et les organisations dans les affaires qui présentent un intérêt pour le public en général ou pour les personnes à faible revenu. Le Centre accepte aussi de représenter des particuliers quand leur cause est une cause type qui soulève des points importants pour le public et qui a des incidences sur une grande variété de personnes. Afin d'optimiser son service, le Centre a un portefeuille varié de causes et de projets et s'intéresse particulièrement aux droits à l'égalité, aux affaires autochtones, à l'assistance sociale et aux services publics, et à la protection des consommateurs.

Nous avons remporté plusieurs victoires importantes l'an dernier. Dans *Harris c. le ministre du Revenu national*, la Cour d'appel fédérale a créé un précédent en droit commun en statuant qu'un contribuable imbu d'esprit civique avait le droit de contester le traitement d'un autre contribuable par le régime fiscal – en l'occurrence, une fiducie familiale d'un milliard de dollars qui avait transféré son actif à l'étranger sans payer d'impôt sur les gains en capital. Le Centre a ensuite réussi à renverser deux requêtes du procureur visant le sursis de l'instance ainsi qu'une demande d'autorisation du procureur à la Cour suprême du Canada. La cause sera instruite en septembre 2001 et est surveillée de près à travers le pays.

Un autre important précédent national a été créé dans *Lesuik c. la Commission de l'emploi et de l'immigration du Canada* quand l'arbitre a jugé que les nouvelles dispositions de la *Loi sur l'assurance-emploi* étaient discriminatoires envers les femmes qui travaillent à temps partiel et contrevenaient donc à l'article 15 de la Charte des droits. Cette cause pourrait avoir des répercussions sur des milliers de demandeurs et le gouvernement en a appelé à la Cour d'appel fédérale.

Le Centre a terminé une longue contestation fondée sur la Charte de l'arrêté de la Ville de Winnipeg sur la mendicité en négociant un texte législatif de remplacement qui respecte les droits à l'égalité et à l'expression des gens de la rue. Après un processus unique de règlement non judiciaire du litige présidé par le juge en chef adjoint Oliphant, la Ville et l'Organisation nationale anti-pauvreté ont forgé un nouvel arrêté qui interdit les nuisances physiques dans la rue, mais qui permet par ailleurs de demander l'aumône. Cette nouvelle approche pourrait devenir un modèle pour les autres autorités municipales.

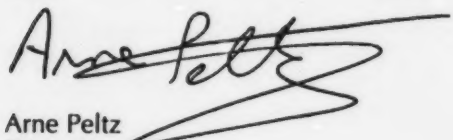
L'affaire sur le droit de vote des prisonniers s'est poursuivie. La Cour suprême du Canada a accordé l'autorisation d'appeler de la décision de la Cour d'appel fédérale dans l'affaire *Sauvé/McCorrister*, inscrivant ainsi cette question épineuse à son programme pour 2001-2002. Le Centre représente des détenus du pénitencier Stony Mountain ainsi que la Native Brotherhood Organization. Le point en litige est le droit du Parlement de refuser le droit de vote aux prisonniers des établissements fédéraux, étant donné la surreprésentation permanente des Autochtones dans le système carcéral.

Cette année encore, le Centre a été occupé à représenter des consommateurs et des personnes âgées devant différents tribunaux de services publics. Le sujet le plus en vue a été la requête de la Société d'assurance publique, qui a été forcée, face à l'outrage public, d'annuler son plan d'affecter 30 millions de dollars de ses réserves à d'autres dépenses gouvernementales. Cet argent a été rendu aux consommateurs du Manitoba sous forme d'un rabais ponctuel. Les consommateurs ont aussi échappé à une hausse de 7 millions de dollars de leur facture de téléphone quand le CRTC a rejeté une partie de la demande d'augmentation de tarif de MTS.

Nous avons continué ou engagé d'autres causes importantes, portant entre autres sur la réglementation des batteries de gaz sulfureux dans les champs de pétrole du Manitoba, les restrictions à l'attribution de licences aux médecins diplômés à l'étranger, les évaluations foncières excessives de modestes maisons du North End de Winnipeg, l'approbation et la réglementation des élevages de porc d'envergure industrielle dans les régions rurales et le traitement médical des prisonniers héroïnomanes. Nous avons poursuivi les négociations visant le règlement de plusieurs importantes revendications autochtones.

La Fondation manitobaine du droit continue de nous fournir notre financement de base. Outre ce financement de la Fondation, nos recettes, y compris les recouvrements de coûts, les contributions des clients, les montants adjugés par la cour et les dons de membres du barreau du Manitoba dans le cadre du *Pro Bono* Public Interest Project, ont atteint 360 000 $. Dans le cadre du projet *Pro Bono*, plusieurs avocats ont accepté des causes types en renonçant à leurs honoraires, ont fait don des montants reçus de l'Aide juridique ou ont fait des dons en espèces. À la réunion du milieu de l'hiver du barreau, le juge en chef Richard Scott a remis le prix de mérite *Pro Bono* à David Golube, de Levine Levene Tadman, pour son importante contribution à la revitalisation du logement dans le North End. Ainsi, le Centre a continué de générer une quantité substantielle de revenus et de services gracieux, qui lui permettent de continuer de représenter l'intérêt public en justice dans une variété de causes sans grever outre mesure le budget général de l'Aide juridique.

Le travail du Centre pour le compte de ses clients implique inévitablement, de temps à autre, un rapport d'opposition avec le gouvernement et le maintien de son indépendance financière est donc vital. Ce « principe d'indépendance » est reconnu et défendu par le conseil d'administration de l'Aide juridique, le barreau et le procureur général depuis de nombreuses années. Sans la représentation déterminée et efficace du Centre sur ces délicates questions juridiques d'intérêt public, certaines voix ne réussiraient tout simplement pas à se faire entendre par les cours, les tribunaux et les législatures.



Arne Peltz
Directeur

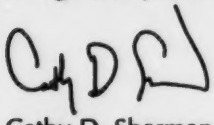
LE BUREAU DU DROIT DES PAUVRES

Le droit des pauvres est le domaine du droit qui s'intéresse aux questions juridiques qui touchent les pauvres. Bien entendu, la plupart des véritables problèmes des pauvres vont bien au-delà de notre système juridique et ont leurs racines dans notre système social et économique. Le droit des pauvres se concentre sur le droit et sur les moyens juridiques ou quasi-juridiques susceptibles d'améliorer la vie des pauvres.

Nous nous occupons d'affaires dans des domaines qui ne touchent que les pauvres ou dans lesquels les pauvres sont surreprésentés. Ces domaines comprennent l'assistance sociale, le Régime de pensions du Canada, la Société d'assurance publique du Manitoba, les régimes privés d'assurance-invalidité, la Commission d'indemnisation des accidents du travail, les rapports entre créanciers et débiteurs, divers autres litiges civils et la location à usage d'habitation.

Notre travail comprend l'offre de conseils et d'information sous forme de consultations sans rendez-vous, la défense informelle des intérêts de notre clientèle auprès des bureaucraties, leur représentation officielle en cour et devant les tribunaux administratifs et l'éducation juridique du public. Nous collaborons aussi avec le Centre chargé des questions juridiques d'intérêt public pour déterminer les lois qui devraient être contestées en cour comme causes types ou modifiées dans le cadre d'une réforme du droit parce qu'elles portent préjudice aux pauvres.

Nous sommes situés dans l'immeuble Somerset, au 294, avenue Portage, bureau 308, à Winnipeg, où nous partageons un local et des ressources avec le Bureau du droit de la famille. Notre personnel se compose d'un avocat en chef, d'un avocat permanent et d'un employé de soutien à mi-temps. Il nous arrive souvent d'avoir besoin de main-d'œuvre supplémentaire et nous pouvons alors faire appel aux techniciens juridiques et aux stagiaires du Bureau du droit de la famille, ainsi qu'au stagiaire du Centre chargé des questions juridiques d'intérêt public.



Cathy D. Sherman
Avocate en chef

LE BUREAU DU DROIT DE LA FAMILLE

Le Bureau du droit de la famille est né de la fusion du Centre de droit familial et du Centre communautaire d'aide juridique de la rue Main en octobre 2000. Il est situé au 294, avenue Portage, bureau 308. Son personnel se compose de huit avocats, trois techniciens juridiques, un directeur administratif et sept secrétaires.

Le Bureau du droit de la famille fournit les avocats de service aux maisons pour femmes battues Osborne House, à Winnipeg, et Agape House,

à Steinbach; au circuit de Steinbach du tribunal criminel itinérant pour adolescents; au circuit de Lundar du tribunal criminel itinérant; et aux programmes de santé mentale du Centre des sciences de la santé, de l'hôpital Victoria, de l'hôpital Grace, de l'hôpital de Selkirk et du McEwen Centre.

En plus de fournir des services sur mandat et des avocats de service, le Bureau fait des consultations à domicile ainsi qu'au Centre de consultations ouvertes et aux prisons Stony Mountain et Headingley. Nos mandats touchent à tous les domaines du droit de la famille, au droit criminel sur le circuit des tribunaux itinérants et à quelques domaines du droit civil, y compris curatelles, indemnisation des accidents de travail, réclamations de la Société d'assurance publique et diverses affaires civiles non génératrices d'honoraires. Nos dossiers informels non mandatés comprennent la préparation de testaments et de procurations.

Le personnel du Bureau du droit de la famille se plaît dans ses nouveaux locaux et continuera de fournir un service efficace et de haute qualité au cours du prochain exercice.

Gil Clifford
Avocat en chef

LE BUREAU D'AIDE JURIDIQUE SPÉCIALISÉ DANS LA PROTECTION DE LA JEUNESSE

Le Bureau d'aide juridique spécialisé dans la protection de la jeunesse est situé au 294, avenue Portage, bureau 500, à Winnipeg. Nous aidons les Manitobains qui ont besoin des services d'un avocat dans les affaires qui touchent à l'aide sociale à l'enfance.

Au cours de l'exercice, nous avons eu des mandats touchant à l'aide sociale à l'enfance et au droit de la famille. Nous fournissons des avocats de service deux matins et un après-midi par semaine pour les premières comparutions au tribunal de protection de la jeunesse de Winnipeg, deux matins par mois pour les premières comparutions au tribunal de protection de la jeunesse de Saint-Boniface et un matin par mois pour les premières comparutions au tribunal de protection de l'enfance de Pine Falls, au Manitoba. Nous prodiguons des conseils informels dans nos bureaux aux enfants qui n'ont pas besoin d'être officiellement représentés, mais à qui un juge, un *master* ou un organisme d'aide à l'enfance a demandé de parler à un avocat.

Nous avons continué d'offrir des services « sur demande » sept jours par semaine. Nous offrons ces services jusqu'à 22 h. Bien que le volume de travail ne soit pas élevé, ce service nous apporte quand même de nouveaux mandats et nous rend plus accessibles à nos clients existants.

Nous avons continué notre action communautaire en faisant régulièrement des exposés oraux à divers organismes et dans différents établissements

apparentés. Nous avons aussi entretenu nos relations suivies avec le cours d'admission au barreau du barreau du Manitoba et avec la faculté de droit de l'université. Nous continuons également de servir de ressource à la communauté juridique, plusieurs avocats et organismes faisant appel à nos conseils dans ce domaine du droit.

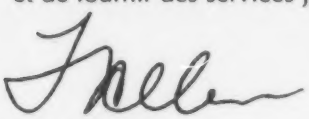
Un stagiaire s'est ajouté à notre personnel habituel de deux avocats, un technicien juridique et une secrétaire pendant tout l'exercice. Une secrétaire à temps partiel s'est aussi jointe périodiquement à notre effectif.

L'an dernier, suite en grande partie aux implications d'une décision de la Cour suprême garantissant les services d'un avocat jusqu'au procès inclusivement dans les causes d'aide sociale à l'enfance, un nombre considérable de nos affaires ont été portées devant les tribunaux.

Nous continuons de tenir un registre de psychologues et de travailleurs sociaux indépendants qui font des évaluations pour la cour. On nous demande aussi fréquemment de suggérer des services de réadaptation.

Notre bureau a largement dépassé ses taux de productivité étalons; nous avons accru notre volume de mandats de 37 %.

Nous continuons d'avoir comme objectif de rendre service à nos clients et de fournir des services juridiques de qualité avec soin et efficacité.



Larry Allen
Avocat en chef

LE CENTRE DES PROCÈS CRIMINELS

Conçu comme centre spécialisé dans les procès criminels et les appels, notre bureau est maintenant en activité depuis près de cinq ans, ayant ouvert ses portes le 4 septembre 1995. Comme nous nous concentrons exclusivement sur le droit criminel, notre bureau s'est doté de compétences et d'aptitudes impressionnantes dans ce qui est de plus en plus un domaine juridique spécialisé et fluctuant.

Le personnel du Centre se compose de quatre avocats, une secrétaire à temps plein et une à temps partiel, et un stagiaire.

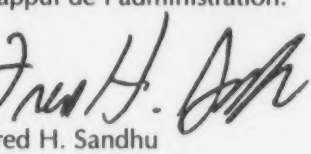
Nous sommes situés relativement près du complexe du palais de justice au cœur de Winnipeg, au 294, avenue Portage, bureau 416. Nous acceptons des clients de partout dans la ville et représentons aussi des clients d'ailleurs dans la province dans certaines causes importantes. Nous fournissons des services à la collectivité rurale de Pine Falls et à plusieurs collectivités isolées de la rive est du lac Winnipeg, soit :

1) Berens River, Bloodvein – un avocat au moins deux jours par mois;
2) Little Grand Rapids, Pauingassi, Poplar River – là aussi, un avocat au moins deux jours par mois;
3) Pine Falls – un avocat au moins trois jours par mois.

Le Centre des procès criminels est heureux de signaler que Greg Hawrysh, qui a été l'avocat de service fourni à la cour itinérante par le bureau, a fait un travail exceptionnel pour ce qui est de la fidélité et de la satisfaction des clients.

Le Centre est aussi responsable de fournir l'avocat de service, tous les mercredis, pour les premières comparutions à la Cour fédérale dans les affaires de stupéfiants, tâche qui incombe généralement à notre stagiaire.

Le but du Centre des procès criminels est de fournir des services juridiques de haute qualité dans le domaine du droit criminel. Il est souvent difficile de mesurer le succès dans ce domaine, mais il ne fait aucun doute que le continuel taux de succès élevé du bureau dans ses procès passés et sa réputation générale dans le milieu juridique se sont améliorés au cours de l'année. Bien que notre travail continue d'être de plus en complexe et de plus en plus stressant, notre bureau n'a pas abandonné sa poursuite de la qualité. Le fait que nous ayons maintenu la qualité de notre service devant la hausse du volume et de la complexité de notre travail reflète à la fois la qualité de notre personnel et l'indépendance dont nous jouissons grâce à l'appui de l'administration.



Fred H. Sandhu
Avocat en chef

LE CENTRE DE CONSULTATIONS OUVERTES

À Winnipeg, toutes les consultations sans rendez-vous ont lieu au Centre de consultations ouvertes (Drop-In Centre), qui est situé au 294, avenue Portage, bureau 416. Le Centre est ouvert de 13 h 30 à 18 h les mardi, mercredi et jeudi de chaque semaine.

La charge de travail est répartie également parmi le personnel de tous les bureaux d'aide juridique de Winnipeg. Ce personnel se compose de 32 avocats, neuf techniciens juridiques, sept stagiaires et cinq préposés à l'accueil. Tous les jours où le Centre est ouvert, quatre membres du personnel choisis à tour de rôle dans tous les autres bureaux sont de service. Il y a donc, chacun de ces trois après-midi, un avocat, un technicien juridique, un stagiaire et un préposé à l'accueil. La composition du personnel garantit qu'il y aura au moins une personne de service pour répondre à tous les besoins ou demandes possibles, puisque les clients se présentent au Centre de consultations ouvertes pour diverses raisons (p. ex. pour demander conseil, pour avoir de l'information, pour remplir les formules de l'Aide juridique, etc.)

Bien que la demande soit élevée et le rythme de travail rapide chaque après-midi, la centralisation des centres de consultation sans rendez-vous de Winnipeg à un seul endroit a amélioré la qualité, l'efficacité et la commodité de ce service. Toute personne désireuse d'obtenir des conseils informels de l'Aide juridique du Manitoba à Winnipeg peut les obtenir le jour où elle se présente au Centre.

Ronald G. Klassen
Directeur adjoint

LE CENTRE COMMUNAUTAIRE D'AIDE JURIDIQUE DE BROADWAY

Le Centre communautaire juridique de Broadway est situé au 635, avenue Broadway et offre des services juridiques aux jeunes contrevenants et aux adultes dont l'affaire relève du droit criminel. Son personnel se compose d'un avocat en chef, treize avocats, deux étudiants, trois techniciens juridiques et quatre employés de soutien.

Au tribunal pour adultes, nous fournissons des avocats de service qui offrent toute la gamme des services dans trois domaines distincts. Trois avocats travaillent dans notre section de la violence familiale et sont à la cour de la violence familiale le lundi matin, à la salle 301. Ils s'occupent de tous les procès instruits dans cette salle. Le volume de travail a augmenté de façon soutenue et nous nous préparons maintenant à fournir l'avocat de service au nouveau tribunal doté d'un système vidéo qui sera chargé de prononcer les libérations sous caution dans les affaires de violence familiale, dès que ce tribunal ouvrira ses portes.

Nous fournissons les avocats de service aux tribunaux criminels pour adultes à la salle 304 (libérations sous caution), 119 (admissions) et 302 (décisions), tous les jours. Notre personnel s'occupe des affaires jusqu'à la détermination de la date du procès, s'il s'avère impossible de les régler autrement. À ce moment-là, l'affaire est transférée au Centre des procès criminels.

En dernier lieu, le Centre fournit un avocat de service au pénitencier fédéral, deux fois par semaine, pour la représentation des prisonniers aux audiences disciplinaires.

Le Centre fournit aussi un avocat de service au tribunal de remise une fois par semaine.

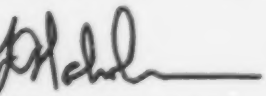
En outre, le Centre a assumé l'an dernier la responsabilité de fournir les avocats de service à la cour itinérante sur les circuits d'Island Lake, Garden Hill, Portage-la-Prairie et Morden. En septembre, le circuit de Morden a été transféré au privé. Nous nous attendons à ce que le circuit de Fisher Branch, qui est actuellement la responsabilité du Bureau du droit de la famille, soit

transféré à notre bureau en avril 2001.

Au tribunal pour adolescents, nous fournissons les avocats de service à la salle 301 (admissions) le mardi et le jeudi, pour les premières comparutions à la Cour fédérale dans les affaires de drogues deux fois par semaine, et au Centre manitobain de la jeunesse tous les jours. Nous avons continué de fournir l'avocat de service à la cour itinérante sur le circuit de Portage-la-Prairie deux fois par semaine et avons pris en charge le circuit de Pine Falls, où la cour siège une fois par mois. Nos avocats ont aussi une pleine charge de travail en plus de servir d'avocats de service.

Les avocats du Centre ont continué de visiter différentes écoles, le Red River College et divers groupes, comme le programme TRY, pour parler aux jeunes de la *Loi sur les jeunes contrevenants* et du système de justice criminelle. Un de nos avocats est membre du conseil d'administration de MacDonald Youth Services et un autre représente tout le personnel au conseil d'administration de l'Aide juridique du Manitoba.

L'année écoulée a encore une fois été éprouvante à cause de la pénurie de personnel et de l'ajout de plusieurs circuits à nos responsabilités sans hausse correspondante de nos effectifs. Le personnel du bureau de l'avenue Broadway a travaillé fort pour offrir des services juridiques de qualité à ses clients cette année et il mérite nos félicitations pour son dévouement. L'année qui commence promet d'être mouvementée, avec la fusion du bureau de l'avenue Broadway et du Centre des procès criminels et notre déménagement dans de nouveaux locaux.



William L. Malcolm
Avocat en chef

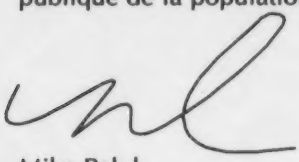
LE BUREAU D'AIDE JURIDIQUE DU CENTRE AUTOCHTONE

Le bureau d'aide juridique du Centre autochtone (Aboriginal Centre) a continué encore cette année de développer son portefeuille de causes qui intéressent particulièrement la population autochtone. Les causes en instance actuellement touchent, entre autres, aux droits des peuples autochtones, aux droits civils, à l'administration des bandes, au statut d'Indien, à la garde des enfants et à l'offre de services sociaux aux peuples autochtones dans les domaines de la santé, du logement, de l'éducation, de la protection de l'enfance, de la police et de l'assurance emploi. Nous avons aussi constaté, dans ces causes, une hausse des appels et des causes civiles.

Nous nous sommes efforcés de tenir les autres centres communautaires d'aide juridique au courant des types de causes dont nous nous occupons pour que le personnel de l'ensemble de notre organisation soit en mesure de reconnaître et de nous renvoyer les affaires semblables ou autres affaires pertinentes.

Nous avons aussi fait des progrès dans l'utilisation de moyens non accusatoires et de techniques de réalisation d'un consensus comme solutions de rechange à l'action en justice pour régler les litiges.

Nos objectifs pour l'année qui commence comprennent pourvoir un poste de technicien juridique dont le titulaire serait chargé d'encourager l'emploi des modèles et concepts de justice autochtones, des cérémonies de guérison et de la justice réparatrice dans notre travail, de former des liens utiles avec les organismes autochtones dans le domaine de la justice et des questions juridiques et de travailler davantage à l'éducation juridique publique de la population autochtone.



Mike Paluk
Avocat en chef

LE CENTRE COMMUNAUTAIRE D'AIDE JURIDIQUE DE LA RÉGION DE L'OUEST

Le bureau de Brandon sert le sud-ouest du Manitoba, dont la population est largement rurale. C'est une région prospère. La population est restée relativement stable mais avec l'essor de l'économie de services provoqué en grande partie par l'usine d'abattage de porc Maple Leaf, notre bureau a atteint, voire dépassé, sa capacité. Nos services sont fournis par l'avocat en chef, trois avocats permanents, un technicien juridique, un préposé à l'accueil et trois employés de soutien. Une forte proportion, et une proportion grandissante, du travail du bureau touche à nos activités de bureau régional, mais la majorité de notre travail consiste quand même à fournir des services juridiques aux particuliers et aux groupes qui font appel à l'Aide juridique.

Le bureau fournit régulièrement l'avocat de service aux trois tribunaux de Brandon, soit au tribunal pour adultes, au tribunal pour adolescents et au tribunal des drogues, ainsi qu'aux tribunaux de Russell, Rossburn, Minnedosa, Virden, Neepawa et Waywayseecappo. Nous fournirons également ce service au tribunal de Sioux Valley quand ce nouveau tribunal sera en place. Nous fournissons un avocat de service aux autres tribunaux des environs au besoin.

Le bureau fait aussi régulièrement des consultations informelles. Les gens qui appellent pour consulter un avocat reçoivent des conseils par téléphone le jour de leur appel. Si un suivi s'impose, l'avocat fixe un rendez-vous avec le demandeur à très brève échéance. Les gens qui appellent pour présenter une demande d'aide juridique, que ce soit avec un avocat de l'Aide juridique ou avec un avocat d'un cabinet privé, peuvent généralement obtenir un rendez-vous avec le préposé à l'accueil en quelques jours. Nos quatre avocats acceptent les appels d'urgence en dehors des heures de bureau et prennent les mesures exigées par la situation, comme se rendre au

poste de police, à un des détachements de la GRC, à l'établissement correctionnel de Brandon ou au centre psychiatrique pour adultes.

Notre entente avec le Westman Women's Shelter est toujours en vigueur. Nous garantissons aux résidentes de ce refuge une entrevue presque immédiate avec le technicien juridique ou un avocat, au refuge ou à notre bureau, à leur gré. Nous avons remarqué que la plupart préfèrent venir à notre bureau.

Le personnel du bureau continue de participer, de manière non officielle, aux activités organisées par la collectivité et par le conseil d'administration.

Le Centre communautaire d'aide juridique de la région de l'Ouest continue d'être productif. Notre centre est un « centre communautaire », c'est-à-dire qu'outre son rôle de bureau régional, il cherche à répondre aux besoins des personnes de la localité qui ont le plus besoin de ses services. La majorité des causes qui relèvent du droit criminel et du droit de la famille ou qui mettent en cause des adolescents vont à des avocats choisis par les clients. Si le client n'a pas désigné d'avocat particulier, la cause, en l'absence de conflits, va généralement à un de nos avocats internes. L'ajout prévu d'un deuxième quart de travail à l'usine Maple Leaf, cependant, réduira fort probablement la capacité du bureau de fonctionner comme il l'a toujours fait. Ce changement devrait se produire sous peu.

Lorne Giesbrecht
Directeur régional et avocat en chef

LE CENTRE COMMUNAUTAIRE D'AIDE JURIDIQUE DE LA RÉGION DES PARCS

Le Centre communautaire d'aide juridique de la région des Parcs, dont le bureau principal est à Dauphin, sert l'ouest de la région centrale du Manitoba.

Nous sommes : la directrice régionale (qui est avocate), deux avocats permanents, deux techniciens juridiques et trois employés de soutien. Notre bureau est très occupé. Le territoire dont nous sommes responsables est vaste. Comme certaines des collectivités où nous travaillons n'ont pas les réseaux de soutien social des grands centres urbains, leur fournir une aide efficace est parfois extrêmement difficile. Nous nous occupons d'affaires criminelles, des jeunes contrevenants, d'affaires familiales et d'affaires administratives. Notre personnel aide les personnes qui comparaissent devant la Commission d'appel des services sociaux et devant le Conseil de révision en santé mentale. Nous sommes aussi chargés d'offrir un programme élargi d'avocats de service aux tribunaux criminels dans notre territoire et un service de consultation sans rendez-vous.

Afin de fournir des services juridiques hors pair, nous avons rationalisé notre travail de façon qu'un avocat se concentre sur les affaires criminelles tandis que les deux autres s'occupent avant tout de droit de la famille. Bien que les avocats responsables des affaires de droit de la famille doivent faire certaines incursions dans le domaine criminel (en raison de la demande), la spécialisation de nos avocats dans un domaine précis nous permet de fournir à nos clients des services juridiques de qualité caractérisés par une grande expertise. Cela veut dire aussi que nous pouvons fournir ces services – en cette période de ressources limitées – de la façon la plus efficace et la plus économique possible.

Le fait que les avocats privés sont de plus en plus rares à accepter les causes d'aide juridique exerce une pression accrue sur notre personnel. Cela a aussi intensifié la pression sur l'ensemble du système d'aide juridique. Dans le domaine du droit de la famille particulièrement, il est de plus en plus difficile de confier les causes à des avocats de cabinets privés. Il est impossible pour notre bureau, avec trois avocats, de s'occuper de toutes les causes d'aide juridique dans la région des Parcs.

Notre bureau est le seul bureau de services juridiques de la région des Parcs qui offre des services de consultation sans rendez-vous à la collectivité. Nous renvoyons certaines de ces personnes à notre programme de mandats ou d'avocats de service. Plusieurs autres viennent demander des conseils, de l'information ou de l'aide dans une grande variété de domaines. Comme le réseau de soutien social dans la région des Parcs est limité, notre bureau est très souvent considéré comme le dernier et unique recours des gens qui veulent des conseils et de l'aide. C'est une tâche ingrate et qui n'est guère appréciée, sauf par les nombreuses personnes qui sont dans le besoin. Outre le service de consultation sans rendez-vous que nous offrons à notre bureau de Dauphin, nous avons aussi organisé des séances de consultation à Camperville, Gypsumville/St. Martin, Roblin et Swan River. Nous offrons aussi nos services, « sur demande » et « si c'est possible » aux collectivités d'Alonsa, Barrows, Birch River, Crane River, Ethelbert, Gilbert Plains, Grandview, Kinosota, Mafeking, Mallard, Marius, McCreary, Minitonas, Pelican Rapids, Pine River, San Clara, Sainte-Rose, Vogar, Waterhen et Winnipegosis et aux collectivités des Premières Nations Ebb and Flow, Indian Birch, Lake Manitoba, O-chi-chak Ko Sipi, Pine Creek, Sandy Bay, Skownan et Tootinaowaziibeeng. Étant donné que le transport est un problème pour plusieurs de nos citoyens qui habitent un endroit isolé, nous faisons aussi des consultations impromptues tous les jours par téléphone.

Nous fournissons les avocats de service aux tribunaux criminels pour adultes et pour adolescents à Amaranth, Ashern, Dauphin, Roblin et Swan River, entre autres. Un de nos avocats internes est présent à chaque séance de ces tribunaux pour obtenir des précisions de la police et déterminer la position du procureur à la première comparution, et pour discuter ensuite de l'affaire avec l'accusé. Il y a donc moins de remises et l'affaire est réglée aussi rapidement qu'il convient et qu'il est possible. Grâce à notre programme élargi d'avocats de service, notre personnel s'occupe de l'affaire jusqu'à la fixation d'une date de procès si elle ne peut être réglée autrement. Notre personnel représente l'accusé au procès si un mandat est accordé par la direc-

trice régionale.

Nous avons aussi fourni un avocat de service à trois tribunaux de protection de l'enfance et deux tribunaux d'exécution des ordonnances alimentaires. Un de nos avocats internes est présent à chaque séance de ces tribunaux pour offrir une aide initiale aux parties non représentées.

Nos avocats internes – qui s'efforcent d'être aussi réceptifs que possible aux besoins de nos clients – offrent un service « de garde » supplémentaire à celui qui est offert à l'échelle de la province en passant par Winnipeg. Ils acceptent les appels d'urgence après les heures de bureau et prennent les mesures qui s'imposent.

Notre bureau est le bureau du directeur de la région des Parcs. Il traite donc toutes les demandes provenant de cette région, ainsi que celles originaires de Thompson et de Brandon qui donnent lieu à un « conflit ». Le bureau veille à ce que ces demandes soient traitées rapidement et qu'un avocat soit assigné aux demandeurs admissibles le plus vite possible. Vu la pénurie d'avocats prêts à accepter des causes d'aide juridique dans notre région, il est arrivé, de temps à autre, que nous ayons confié des causes à des avocats de l'extérieur de notre région. Cela se produit de plus en plus souvent, surtout dans le domaine du droit de la famille.

Nous continuons aussi de faire un effort concerté pour faire le plus d'action sociale possible dans les collectivités que nous servons. Nous nous efforçons d'être disponibles pour faire des exposés dans les écoles, ainsi qu'à des groupes communautaires et philanthropiques. Non seulement rendons-nous service à la collectivité par cette action sociale, mais nous lui rappelons aussi, en parlant à ces groupes, que des pauvres vivent parmi eux et qu'ils ont des besoins et qu'ils ont voix au chapitre.

Notre personnel participe aussi à des activités éducatives. Cette année, par exemple, un de nos avocats a aidé à organiser un tribunal modèle pour un groupe de scouts. Ce projet a réuni des membres de la GRC, ainsi que des employés du palais de justice et du bureau du procureur de la Couronne.

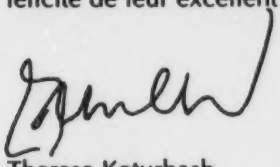
Les membres de notre personnel aident à organiser la campagne de charité All Charities Campaign et le programme de paniers de Noël de l'Armée du salut.

Notre personnel participe aussi activement à l'organisation de la conférence semestrielle de l'Aide juridique. Cette année, un de nos employés est coprésident du comité organisateur.

Nous nous attendons aussi à ce que notre personnel poursuive son perfectionnement professionnel, pour que notre clientèle continue d'avoir accès à un service de haute qualité.

Notre personnel dévoué continue de manifester sa détermination de fournir des services juridiques de la plus haute qualité aux pauvres et aux travailleurs à faible revenu.

Je suis sans cesse impressionnée par le haut niveau de service que fournit mon personnel dans des circonstances qui sont souvent stressantes. Je les félicite de leur excellent travail.



Therese Koturbash
Directrice régionale et avocate en chef

LE CENTRE COMMUNAUTAIRE D'AIDE JURIDIQUE DE LA RÉGION DU NORD

Le Centre communautaire d'aide juridique de la région du Nord, à The Pas, fournit des services d'aide juridique à The Pas et aux collectivités avoisinantes. Son personnel est formé d'un avocat en chef, de deux avocats, d'une technicienne juridique bilingue, d'un stagiaire, de deux secrétaires à temps plein et d'une secrétaire à mi-temps.

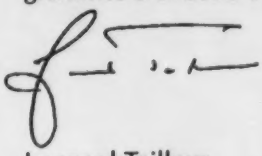
Nous fournissons régulièrement un avocat de service à la Cour provinciale (affaires criminelles et familiales) et au tribunal pour adolescents aux endroits suivants : Pukatawagan, Flin Flon, Cranberry Portage, Snow Lake, Moose Lake, The Pas, Easterville et Grand Rapids. En outre, notre personnel est présent à la Cour du Banc de la Reine (affaires criminelles et familiales) à The Pas et Flin Flon. Notre personnel paraît aussi de temps à autre devant des tribunaux administratifs, notamment la Commission d'appel des suspensions de permis, la Commission d'appel des services sociaux, la Commission de la location à usage d'habitation et le comité de discipline du Centre correctionnel de The Pas.

L'embauche de notre technicienne juridique bilingue (cri et anglais), Mandy Chastellaine, en 1997 a accru la disponibilité et l'efficacité du bureau dans son travail auprès des Premières Nations.

Notre bureau à The Pas est ouvert de 8 h 30 à midi et de 13 h à 16 h 30 du lundi au vendredi et fournit conseils et aide sans rendez-vous quand un membre du personnel est libre. Notre avocat spécialisé en droit de la famille se rend au refuge d'urgence local quand le besoin se présente. En outre, notre stagiaire assure une séance de consultation sans rendez-vous chaque semaine au centre correctionnel de The Pas à l'intention autant des prisonniers condamnés que des accusés placés sous garde en attendant le règlement de leur affaire. Nous offrons régulièrement des consultations sans rendez-vous sur le circuit de la cour itinérante, généralement conjointement aux séances de la cour. En outre, notre technicienne juridique se rend à Pukatawagan une fois par mois.

Notre bureau a complètement modernisé son système informatique et est maintenant branché sur le réseau du bureau principal à Winnipeg. Le bureau est également interconnecté sur un réseau interne.

Nos avocats de droit criminel ont atteint leur objectif de s'occuper eux-mêmes de toutes les demandes d'aide juridique qui n'indiquaient pas un choix d'avocat et d'être fréquemment l'avocat choisi. Nous offrons un excellent service autant dans notre programme de mandats que dans nos programmes d'avocats de service (ordinaire et élargi).



Leonard Tailleur
Avocat en chef

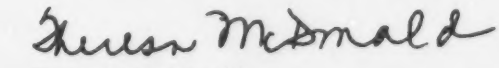
LE CENTRE COMMUNAUTAIRE D'AIDE JURIDIQUE DE THOMPSON

Le Centre communautaire d'aide juridique de Thompson sert la ville de Thompson et 14 autres collectivités. Nous avons une avocate en chef, qui est aussi la directrice régionale, trois avocats permanents, deux techniciens juridiques et trois employés de soutien. Nous offrons des services en anglais, en cri et en français. Nous continuons d'offrir une séance hebdomadaire de consultations sans rendez-vous à Norway House, Cross Lake et Nelson House. Nous offrons aussi ce service dans d'autres collectivités au besoin.

Il y a eu des changements dans le personnel du bureau cette année. Cameron Pauls a déménagé à Winnipeg et a été remplacé par Gary Robinson. Shannon Allen s'est jointe au bureau à titre de AY3. Nous leur souhaitons la bienvenue parmi nous.

La « stratégie judiciaire des Premières Nations » a entraîné la tenue de plus de 80 séances par année de la cour des magistrats (Magistrate's Court). Fournir des services avec cette hausse continue d'être difficile. Heureusement, le choix de moyens non judiciaires a augmenté et nous pouvons maintenant faire appel, par exemple, au comité de justice des régions du Nord, aux divers comités de justice locaux et au comité de justice autochtone.

La directrice régionale est responsable de Thompson, de The Pas, de Flin Flon et de 19 autres collectivités du Nord.



Theresa McDonald
Directrice régionale et avocate en chef

Legal Aid Activity by Area

For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Area	Applications for Legal Aid Certificates	Applications Refused	Certificates Issued Civil	Criminal	Youth	Certificates Cancelled	Persons Assisted by Duty Counsel
Brandon	1,585	308	758	462	82	232	3,350
	(1,553)	(252)	(683)	(397)	(115)	(123)	(2,970)
Dauphin	1,228	150	590	423	80	166	427
	(1,843)	(118)	(537)	(454)	(101)	(146)	(2,259)
The Pas & Thompson	2,231	203	742	1,105	198	104	6,471
	(2,291)	(224)	(696)	(1,109)	(215)	(197)	(7,302)
Winnipeg	16,661	2,068	6,509	5,550	1,128	3,112	23,468
	(16,355)	(1,786)	(6,587)	(5,409)	(1,071)	(2,519)	(29,462)
Provincial Total	21,705	2,729	8,599	7,540	1,488	3,614	33,716
	(22,042)	(2,380)	(8,503)	(7,369)	(1,502)	(2,985)	(41,993)

NOTES:

1. *In the fiscal year ended March 31, 2001 there was a total of 17,627 (17,374) certificates issued; of this total 4,133 (4,668) were issued to staff lawyers through the following community law centres.*

Winnipeg	*– Family Law/Poverty Law*	*1,420*	*(1,473)*
	– Criminal Trial	*500*	*(546)*
	– Youth	*43*	*(64)*
	– Child Protection	*374*	*(365)*
	– Broadway Adult	*50*	*(190)*
	– Aboriginal	*28*	*(111)*
Westman		*349*	*(495)*
Parklands		*476*	*(458)*
Northlands		*398*	*(505)*
Thompson		*495*	*(461)*
		4,133	*(4,668)*

2. *In the fiscal year ended March 31, 2001 there was a total of 33,716 (41,993) people assisted by Duty Counselling Services; of this total 31,921 (40,328) were assisted by staff lawyers through the following community law centres.*

Winnipeg	*– Family Law/Poverty Law*	*3,018*	*(185)*
	– Criminal Trial	*1,351*	*(1,192)*
	– Youth	*4,540*	*(8,773)*
	– Child Protection	*813*	*(461)*
	– Broadway Adult	*13,054*	*(18,133)*
	– Aboriginal	*5*	*(30)*
Westman		*3,318*	*(2,921)*
Parklands		*414*	*(2,149)*
Northlands		*1,599*	*(1,991)*
Thompson		*3,809*	*(4,493)*
		31,921	*(40,328)*

(Table continued on next page)

3. *For the year ended March 31, 2001 2,729 (12.6%) of the applications for Legal Aid were refused as compared to 2,380 (10.8%) in the previous year.*

4. *For the year ended March 31, 2001 there was a total of 16,953 (17,374) telephone and drop-in inquiries and 4,753 (4,198) non-certificate files opened for a total of 21,706 (21,572) people assisted. The following represents the breakdown by community law centre.*

Winnipeg	*– Administration*	*1,639*	*(1,530)*
	– Family Law/Poverty Law	*2,233*	*(2,038)*
	– Criminal Trial	*354*	*(266)*
	– Youth	*1,389*	*(1,752)*
	– Child Protection	*596*	*(369)*
	– Broadway Adult	*2,731*	*(1,869)*
	– Aboriginal	*899*	*(723)*
	– University	*663*	*(603)*
Westman		*3,427*	*(3,821)*
Parklands		*3,161*	*(2,375)*
Northlands		*1,235*	*(2,741)*
Thompson		*3,379*	*(3,485)*
		21,706	*(21,572)*

5. *For the year ended March 31, 2001 there was a total of 73,049 (80,939) people assisted either on a formal or informal basis.*

Analysis of Certificates Issued
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
CRIMINAL ADULT			
Murder	38 (23)	7 (4)	45 (27)
Attempt Murder	16 (27)	3 (3)	19 (30)
Manslaughter	9 (4)	1 (Nil)	10 (4)
Sexual Assault - A	9 (12)	3 (6)	12 (18)
Sexual Assault - Indictable	187 (160)	40 (58)	227 (218)
Assault - B	141 (148)	16 (22)	157 (170)
Robbery	351 (346)	27 (35)	378 (381)
Cause Harm/Death	42 (25)	13 (6)	55 (31)
Other Sexual Offences - B	76 (53)	16 (13)	92 (66)
Arson	47 (39)	10 (11)	57 (50)
Narcotics - B	262 (207)	49 (37)	311 (244)
Incest	Nil (1)	Nil (1)	Nil (2)
Sexual Assault - Summary	56 (69)	18 (26)	74 (95)
Miscellaneous - B	24 (18)	2 (2)	26 (20)
Other Sexual Offences - C	16 (15)	11 (9)	27 (24)
Break, Enter	623 (682)	98 (107)	721 (789)
Possess Weapon Dangerous to Public Peace	146 (149)	33 (48)	179 (197)
Theft - Indictable	95 (96)	11 (21)	106 (117)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Indictable	49 (73)	14 (10)	63 (83)
Forgery/Uttering	63 (52)	15 (11)	78 (63)
Fraud - Indictable	32 (34)	12 (15)	44 (49)
False Pretences - Indictable	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)

(Table continued on next page)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
Mischief	182 (149)	23 (26)	205 (175)
U.A.L./Escape	40 (50)	Nil (8)	40 (58)
Other Weapons Offences - C	56 (66)	11 (16)	67 (82)
Set Fire to Substance	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Communication for the Purpose	31 (22)	1 (1)	32 (23)
Other Narcotics - C	101 (94)	16 (16)	117 (110)
M.V.O. - Federal	231 (223)	50 (67)	281 (290)
Uttering Threats	387 (359)	60 (95)	447 (454)
Obstruction	40 (23)	12 (3)	52 (26)
Breach Probation	421 (329)	45 (56)	466 (385)
Fraud - Summary	52 (62)	11 (11)	63 (73)
False Pretences - Summary	15 (10)	1 (1)	16 (11)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Summary	74 (74)	8 (15)	82 (89)
Theft - Summary	297 (360)	39 (63)	336 (423)
Other Breach and F.T.A.	297 (200)	35 (36)	332 (236)
Assault - C	1,547 (1,380)	468 (555)	2,015 (1,935)
M.V.O. - Provincial	11 (9)	2 (4)	13 (13)
Other Federal Offences	94 (114)	35 (37)	129 (151)
Other Provincial Offences	12 (1)	4 (4)	16 (5)
Parole/Prison Law	46 (25)	4 (11)	50 (36)
Appeals - Client	65 (72)	10 (18)	75 (90)
Appeals - Crown	13 (17)	7 (2)	20 (19)
Junior Counsel	5 (6)	Nil (1)	5 (7)
	6,299 (5,878)	1,241 (1,491)	7,540 (7,369)

Analysis of Certificates Issued
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
CRIMINAL YOUTH			
Murder	9 (4)	Nil (Nil)	9 (4)
Attempt Murder	6 (8)	1 (1)	7 (9)
Manslaughter	Nil (Nil)	1 (Nil)	1 (Nil)
Sexual Assault - A	3 (2)	Nil (Nil)	3 (2)
Sexual Assault - Indictable	17 (14)	4 (9)	21 (23)
Assault - B	24 (27)	10 (4)	34 (31)
Robbery	133 (149)	4 (3)	137 (152)
Cause Harm/Death	2 (1)	Nil (1)	2 (2)
Other Sexual Offences - B	8 (6)	1 (3)	9 (9)
Arson	32 (60)	4 (6)	36 (66)
Narcotics - B	20 (16)	2 (Nil)	22 (16)
Incest	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Sexual Assault - Summary	12 (5)	2 (5)	14 (10)
Miscellaneous - B	1 (2)	Nil (Nil)	1 (2)
Other Sexual Offences - C	5 (1)	Nil (Nil)	5 (1)
Break, Enter	261 (291)	43 (69)	304 (360)
Possess Weapon Dangerous to Public Peace	42 (27)	6 (10)	48 (37)
Theft - Indictable	73 (73)	4 (5)	77 (78)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Indictable	25 (30)	1 (9)	26 (39)
Forgery/Uttering	3 (2)	1 (1)	4 (3)
Fraud - Indictable	3 (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	3 (Nil)
Mischief	57 (39)	9 (19)	66 (58)

(Table continued on next page)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
U.A.L./Escape	33 (14)	1 (Nil)	34 (14)
Other Weapons Offences - C	10 (12)	1 (2)	11 (14)
Communication for the Purpose	5 (4)	Nil (Nil)	5 (4)
Other Narcotics - C	13 (15)	Nil (3)	13 (18)
M.V.O. - Federal	9 (8)	4 (2)	13 (10)
Uttering Threats	46 (28)	4 (5)	50 (33)
Obstruction	2 (3)	1 (Nil)	3 (3)
Breach Probation	13 (27)	2 (3)	15 (30)
Fraud - Summary	10 (8)	2 (2)	12 (10)
False Pretences - Summary	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Summary	24 (33)	1 (1)	25 (34)
Theft - Summary	76 (70)	10 (7)	86 (77)
Other Breach and F.T.A.	15 (9)	2 (3)	17 (12)
Assault - C	160 (132)	47 (43)	207 (175)
M.V.O. - Provincial	Nil (1)	1 (Nil)	1 (1)
Other Federal Offences	11 (13)	1 (3)	12 (16)
Other Provincial Offences	2 (1)	1 (1)	3 (2)
Parole/Prison Law	Nil (1)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (1)
Youth Transfers	1 (1)	Nil (Nil)	1 (1)
Youth Reviews/Breaches	123 (106)	11 (18)	134 (124)
Appeals - Youth	6 (11)	11 (10)	17 (21)
Junior Counsel	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
	1,295 (1,254)	193 (248)	1,488 (1,502)

Analysis of Certificates Issued
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
CIVIL			
Divorce	1,010 (891)	434 (486)	1,444 (1,377)
Separation	1,555 (1,387)	552 (620)	2,107 (2,007)
Variation: Maintenance/Enforcement	758 (656)	224 (256)	982 (912)
C.F.S.	564 (623)	324 (310)	888 (933)
Adoption	34 (35)	33 (32)	67 (67)
Parentage Proceeding	712 (668)	384 (424)	1,096 (1,092)
Immigration	75 (85)	8 (22)	83 (107)
Welfare Matters	41 (27)	79 (105)	120 (132)
Other Administrative	21 (27)	56 (54)	77 (81)
Landlord/Tenant	6 (5)	3 (6)	9 (11)
Appeals - Civil	33 (14)	11 (16)	44 (30)
Legal Opinions - Civil	21 (24)	18 (30)	39 (54)
Other - Civil	42 (37)	27 (27)	69 (64)
Youth Court Appointed/Amicus	72 (98)	45 (95)	117 (193)
Workers Compensation	9 (3)	6 (6)	15 (9)
Mental Health Matters	21 (12)	18 (36)	39 (48)
Estate Matters	4 (5)	Nil (3)	4 (8)
Defendant - Civil Suit	21 (27)	7 (13)	28 (40)
Plaintiff - Civil Suit	9 (9)	4 (1)	13 (10)
Immigration - Adjudicator's Appointment	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Private Guardianship	287 (243)	170 (177)	457 (420)
Enforcement Only	11 (7)	12 (11)	23 (18)

(Table continued on next page)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
Variation: Access/Custody	344 (390)	87 (105)	431 (495)
Group Application	1 (Nil)	2 (1)	3 (1)
Disbursements Only	10 (8)	Nil (Nil)	10 (8)
Other Family	239 (208)	195 (178)	434 (386)
	5,900 (5,489)	2,699 (3,014)	8,599 (8,503)

Analysis of Completed Cases by Types of Case
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
CRIMINAL ADULT			
Murder	32	$ 352,091	$ 11,002.86
	(23)	(345,189)	(15,008.21)
Attempt Murder	23	55,904	2,430.62
	(22)	(67,025)	(3,046.59)
Manslaughter	5	22,996	4,599.10
	(6)	(72,248)	(12,041.37)
Sexual Assault - A	8	13,532	1,691.49
	(14)	(31,573)	(2,255.22)
Import Narcotics	Nil	Nil	Nil
	(Nil)	(Nil)	(Nil)
Sexual Assault - Indictable	133	181,084	1,361.53
	(176)	(200,499)	(1,139.20)
Assault - B	126	121,639	965.39
	(142)	(127,991)	(901.35)
Robbery	350	368,406	1,052.59
	(306)	(273,814)	(894.82)
Cause Harm/Death	31	35,029	1,129.98
	(33)	(23,253)	(704.63)
Other Sexual Offences - B	58	77,856	1,342.34
	(52)	(48,402)	(930.80)
Arson	38	28,333	745.62
	(38)	(25,687)	(675.97)
Narcotics - B	222	183,713	827.54
	(167)	(115,556)	(691.95)
Incest	Nil	478	Nil
	(3)	(7,493)	(2,497.58)
Sexual Assault - Summary	61	35,034	574.33
	(44)	(26,172)	(594.81)
Miscellaneous - B	26	24,755	952.11
	(19)	(17,258)	(908.33)
Other Sexual Offences - C	17	15,067	886.32
	(15)	(6,855)	(457.03)
Break, Enter	635	281,253	442.92
	(684)	(283,237)	(414.09)
Possess Weapon Dangerous to Public Peace	148	74,787	505.32
	(140)	(47,744)	(341.03)
Theft - Indictable	83	35,321	425.55
	(101)	(48,214)	(477.36)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Indictable	62	27,087	436.89
	(83)	(30,739)	(370.35)
Forgery/Uttering	51	21,761	426.69
	(60)	(18,695)	(311.58)
Fraud - Indictable	33	40,182	1,217.63
	(42)	(40,036)	(953.25)

(Table continued on next page)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
False Pretences - Indictable	Nil (4)	$ 58 (1,269)	$ Nil (317.19)
Mischief	142 (161)	52,424 (49,497)	369.18 (307.43)
U.A.L./Escape	37 (49)	11,174 (14,161)	302.00 (289.01)
Other Weapons Offences - C	46 (70)	43,037 (32,812)	935.59 (468.75)
Set Fire to Substance	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Communication for the Purpose	31 (20)	8,625 (4,915)	278.22 (245.76)
Other Narcotics - C	100 (84)	45,922 (41,932)	459.22 (499.19)
M.V.O. - Federal	219 (216)	89,124 (60,256)	406.96 (278.96)
Uttering Threats	346 (363)	137,438 (126,409)	397.22 (348.23)
Obstruction	29 (20)	15,546 (6,860)	536.06 (342.98)
Breach Probation	341 (300)	94,442 (79,461)	276.96 (264.87)
Fraud - Summary	54 (65)	21,939 (18,707)	406.28 (287.80)
False Pretences - Summary	14 (12)	5,778 (4,320)	412.74 (359.97)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Summary	70 (75)	44,315 (19,196)	633.07 (255.95)
Theft - Summary	292 (346)	88,646 (108,210)	303.58 (312.75)
Other Breach and F.T.A.	236 (178)	72,489 (51,801)	307.16 (291.01)
Assault - C	1,356 (1,295)	484,038 (465,509)	356.96 (359.47)
M.V.O. - Provincial	8 (11)	2,831 (3,173)	353.90 (288.46)
Other Federal Offences	93 (104)	71,118 (49,543)	764.71 (476.37)
Other Provincial Offences	8 (1)	2,298 (572)	287.31 (572.35)
Parole/Prison Law	37 (42)	19,081 (11,680)	515.71 (278.10)
Appeals - Client	65 (76)	103,578 (89,016)	1,593.51 (1,171.26)
Appeals - Crown	15 (22)	31,147 (30,698)	2,076.50 (1,395.38)
Junior Counsel	3 (4)	6,661 (13,680)	2,220.35 (3,419.95)
	5,684 (5,688)	$ 3,448,019 (3,141,358)	$ 606.62 (552.28)

Analysis of Completed Cases by Types of Case
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
CRIMINAL YOUTH			
Murder	4	$ 19,709	$ 4,927.15
	(Nil)	(4,791)	(Nil)
Attempt Murder	4	5,407	1,351.64
	(6)	(6,108)	(1,017.98)
Manslaughter	Nil	194	Nil
	(1)	(5,074)	(5,073.54)
Sexual Assault - Weapon	4	3,306	826.43
	(1)	(1,253)	(1,252.65)
Import Narcotics	Nil	Nil	Nil
	(Nil)	(Nil)	(Nil)
Sexual Assault - Indictable	15	17,476	1,165.04
	(20)	(13,233)	(661.66)
Assault - B	20	15,812	790.61
	(25)	(17,593)	(703.72)
Robbery	135	90,808	672.65
	(154)	(105,587)	(685.63)
Cause Harm/Death	Nil	454	Nil
	(1)	(1,552)	(1,552.12)
Other Sexual Offences - B	10	8,717	871.75
	(6)	(6,845)	(1,140.85)
Arson	47	42,828	911.23
	(29)	(17,624)	(607.72)
Narcotics - B	13	8,942	687.82
	(12)	(6,302)	(525.18)
Incest	Nil	Nil	Nil
	(Nil)	(Nil)	(Nil)
Sexual Assault - Summary	5	2,642	528.34
	(7)	(6,373)	(910.37)
Miscellaneous - B	2	879	439.64
	(2)	(973)	(486.49)
Other Sexual Offences - C	5	5,088	1,017.59
	(1)	(1,442)	(1,442.27)
Break, Enter	276	106,462	385.73
	(312)	(116,333)	(372.86)
Possess Weapons Dangerous to Public Peace	38	12,548	330.21
	(29)	(11,687)	(402.99)
Theft - Indictable	68	20,607	303.04
	(70)	(20,445)	(292.07)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Indictable	25	8,640	345.59
	(30)	(7,746)	(258.18)
Forgery/Uttering	2	719	359.26
	(9)	(2,306)	(256.27)
Fraud - Indictable	Nil	Nil	Nil
	(Nil)	(Nil)	(Nil)

(Table continued on next page)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
Mischief	43 (48)	$ 11,273 (13,703)	$ 262.17 (285.49)
U.A.L./Escape	26 (11)	5,816 (2,814)	223.69 (255.82)
Other Weapons Offences	10 (8)	3,019 (1,597)	301.92 (199.62)
Communication for the Purpose	4 (4)	1,407 (731)	351.66 (182.74)
Other Narcotics - C	13 (16)	6,178 (4,405)	475.25 (275.28)
M.V.O. - Federal	10 (8)	3,858 (2,782)	385.80 (347.80)
Uttering Threats	34 (29)	9,030 (13,273)	265.59 (457.68)
Obstruction	1 (4)	226 (1,056)	225.70 (264.11)
Breach Probation	17 (21)	4,122 (5,092)	242.50 (242.46)
Fraud - Summary	8 (5)	2,254 (935)	281.81 (186.98)
False Pretences - Summary	Nil (Nil)	Nil (28)	Nil (Nil)
Possess Goods Obtained by by Crime - Summary	25 (36)	6,322 (9,140)	252.89 (253.88)
Theft - Summary	82 (63)	20,668 (16,403)	252.05 (260.37)
Other Breach and F.T.A.	14 (10)	3,131 (3,601)	223.67 (360.12)
Assault - C	129 (128)	41,437 (38,870)	321.22 (303.67)
M.V.O. - Provincial	Nil (1)	13 (447)	Nil (446.52)
Other Federal Offences	7 (10)	1,728 (1,822)	246.85 (182.16)
Other Provincial Offences	2 (1)	1,350 (404)	675.20 (403.98)
Parole/Prison Law	1 (1)	332 (Nil)	332.00 (Nil)
Youth Transfers	2 (Nil)	383 (77)	191.52 (Nil)
Youth Reviews/Breaches	122 (99)	32,229 (23,045)	264.18 (232.78)
Appeals - Youth	6 (14)	5,578 (9,574)	929.59 (683.83)
	1,229 (1,232)	$ 531,592 (503,064)	$ 432.54 (408.33)

Analysis of Completed Cases by Types of Case
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
CIVIL			
Divorce	898 (975)	$ 560,527 (548,824)	$ 624.19 (562.90)
Separation	1,262 (1,326)	667,713 (663,795)	529.09 (500.60)
Variation: Maintenance/Enforcement	609 (623)	338,953 (318,828)	556.57 (511.76)
C.F.S.	551 (598)	398,808 (444,912)	723.79 (744.00)
Adoption	25 (46)	14,422 (21,398)	576.88 (465.17)
Parentage Proceeding	662 (717)	379,843 (386,757)	573.78 (539.41)
Immigration	115 (63)	65,298 (45,118)	567.81 (716.16)
Welfare Matters	33 (27)	3,318 (8,821)	100.56 (326.71)
Other Administrative	19 (28)	10,296 (11,764)	541.89 (420.14)
Landlord/Tenant	8 (5)	3,166 (2,273)	395.69 (454.65)
Appeals - Civil	16 (19)	15,121 (17,815)	945.08 (937.63)
Legal Opinions - Civil	18 (31)	4,491 (8,947)	249.51 (288.61)
Other - Civil	34 (32)	18,253 (15,599)	536.84 (487.46)
Youth Court Appointed/Amicus	82 (80)	55,645 (43,230)	678.60 (540.38)
Workers Compensation	4 (9)	3,710 (7,644)	927.56 (849.31)
Mental Health Matters	13 (21)	4,279 (5,210)	329.14 (248.11)
Estate Matters	5 (5)	3,014 (1,653)	602.80 (330.58)
Defendant - Civil Suit	23 (36)	19,293 (27,452)	838.84 (762.57)
Plaintiff - Civil Suit	11 (7)	23,634 (11,857)	2,148.58 (1,693.93)
Immigration - Adjudicator's Appointment	Nil (1)	Nil (472)	Nil (472.30)
Private Guardianship	247 (241)	124,374 (123,756)	503.54 (513.51)
Enforcement Only	5 (11)	1,232 (3,436)	246.43 (312.37)

(Table continued on next page)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
Variation: Access/Custody	320 (381)	$ 208,873 (214,415)	$ 652.73 (562.77)
Group Application	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Disbursements Only	2 (4)	2,985 (7,408)	1,492.55 (1,851.91)
Other Family	180 (215)	80,570 (88,272)	447.61 (410.57)
	5,142 (5,501)	$ 3,007,821 (3,029,656)	$ 584.95 (550.75)

Note: *As of March 31, 2001 there were approximately 12,314 cases yet to be completed and paid compared to 14,821 in the previous year.*

Legal Aid Fees and Disbursements by Area
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

	Total Fees and Disbursements	Completed Cases	Average Cost Per Case
CRIMINAL ADULT			
Brandon	206,405	396	521.22
	(130,762)	(375)	(348.70)
Dauphin	120,052	306	392.33
	(119,628)	(339)	(352.89)
The Pas & Thompson	241,761	581	416.11
	(294,096)	(607)	(484.51)
Winnipeg	2,879,801	4,401	654.35
	(2,596,871)	(4,367)	(594.66)
CRIMINAL YOUTH			
Brandon	29,424	82	358.83
	(40,025)	(105)	(381.19)
Dauphin	20,299	45	451.09
	(32,836)	(71)	(462.48)
The Pas & Thompson	50,165	107	468.83
	(44,760)	(100)	(447.60)
Winnipeg	431,704	995	433.87
	(385,443)	(956)	(403.18)
CIVIL			
Brandon	157,995	296	533.77
	(181,206)	(445)	(407.20)
Dauphin	102,492	206	497.53
	(107,461)	(232)	(463.20)
The Pas & Thompson	154,858	334	463.65
	(164,578)	(387)	(425.27)
Winnipeg	2,592,477	4,306	602.06
	(2,576,410)	(4,437)	(580.66)
	$ 6,987,433	12,055	$ 579.63
	(6,674,077)	(12,421)	(537.32)

NOTE: Reconciliation to private bar fees and disbursements disclosed on the financial statements:

Fees and disbursements per private system as above	*$ 6,987,433*
Add: Accruals	*(35,331)*
Less: Repayment of Holdback	*208,431*
Fees and disbursements on an accrual basis as per the financial statements	*$ 7,160,533*

Duty Counsel Fees and Disbursements
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with the 2000 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

	Total Fees and Disbursements	Persons Assisted	Average Cost Per Case
Brandon	1,604 (1,416)	32 (49)	50.12 (28.89)
Dauphin	1,001 (3,184)	13 (110)	77.04 (28.94)
The Pas & Thompson	41,338 (31,266)	1,063 (818)	38.89 (38.22)
Winnipeg	26,224 (17,759)	687 (688)	38.17 (25.81)
	$ 70,168 (53,624)	1,795 (1,665)	$ 39.09 (32.21)

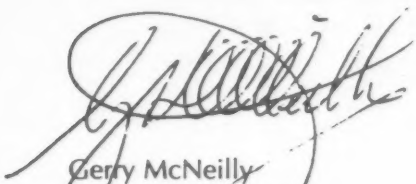
NOTE: The financial statements show total duty counsel disbursements of $206,659. That figure includes disbursements of $13,335 for Age and Opportunity, $32,796 for on-call duty counsel, $25,122 for Portage Legal Services, $9,658 for Thompson Legal Services and, $47,477 for The Pas Legal Services and, $8,103 for communication and travel costs recorded in the fiscal year.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The accompanying financial statements of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba are the responsibility of management and have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies stated in Note 2 to the financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2001.

As management is responsible for the integrity of the financial statements, management has established systems of internal control to provide reasonable assurance that assets are properly accounted for and safeguarded from loss.

The responsibility of the Provincial Auditor is to express an independent professional opinion on whether the financial statements are fairly presented in accordance with the accounting policies stated in the financial statements. The Auditor's Report outlines the scope of the audit examination and provides the audit opinion.



Gerry McNeilly
Executive Director
The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba

August 15, 2001

Office of the Provincial Auditor

500 - 330 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
CANADA R3C 0C4

AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba
To the Board of Directors of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba

We have audited the balance sheet of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba as at March 31, 2001 and the statements of revenue and expenditure and net assets and cash flow for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Society's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba as at March 31, 2001 and the results of its operations and its cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies stated in note 2 to the financial statements.

Office of the Provincial Auditor

Office of the Provincial Auditor

Winnipeg, Manitoba
August 21, 2001

Balance Sheet
as at March 31, 2001
(with 2000 figures for comparison)

	2001	2000
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank	$ 434,398	$ 558,750
Funds on deposit with Minister of Finance		
Client accounts receivable, net (Note 3)	986,487	960,809
Receivable from the Province of Manitoba	77,000	106,000
Other receivables, net (Note 4)	83,405	103,524
Prepaid expense	276,951	63,155
	1,858,241	1,792,238
Long-term receivable - severance - Province of Manitoba (Note 5)	716,166	716,166
Long-term receivable - pension - Province of Manitoba (Note 12)	7,254,785	6,432,631
	$ 9,829,192	$ 8,941,035
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	$ 921,879	$ 754,964
Accrued vacation pay	649,912	631,671
Deferred revenue from clients	352,215	348,009
Deferred contribution from Province of Manitoba (Note 6)	30,000	170,770
	1,954,006	1,905,414
Severance liability (Note 6)	895,503	843,227
Provision for employee pension benefits (note 12)	7,254,785	6,432,631
Net Assets	(275,102)	(240,237)
	$ 9,829,192	$ 8,941,035

Approved by the Board

Chairperson

Director

F2

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Statement of Revenue and Expenditure, and Net Assets
for the year ended March 31, 2001
(with 2000 figures for comparison)

	2001	2000
Revenue		
Province of Manitoba (Note 7)	$ 14,656,891	$ 14,178,983
Manitoba Law Foundation (Note 8)	1,523,935	1,687,438
Contributions from clients	989,074	914,303
Recoveries from third parties	680,238	639,459
Government of Canada	3,116	1,593
Judgment costs and settlements	162,854	139,115
Interest income	40,591	29,534
Other	2,982	0
	$ 18,059,681	$ 17,590,425
Expenditure		
Private bar fees and disbursements, net (Note 11)		
Legal aid certificates	$ 7,160,533	$ 6,918,329
Duty counsel services	208,911	135,109
Transcripts and Other Contributed Services	84,384	84,893
	7,453,828	7,138,331
Community Law Centres, Schedule 1	6,660,125	6,683,091
Public Interest Law Centre, Schedule 1	489,015	534,231
University Law Centre, Schedule 1	73,604	77,236
General and administrative, Schedule 1	3,417,974	3,413,900
	$ 18,094,546	$ 17,846,789
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditure, operations	(34,865)	(256,364)
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditure, special trial (note 6)	0	0
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditure	(34,865)	(256,364)
Net Assets, beginning of year	(240,237)	16,127
Net Assets, end of year	$ (275,102)	$ (240,237)

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Statement of Cash Flow
for the year ended March 31, 2001
(with 2000 figures for comparison)

	2001	2000
Cash Flow Provided by (Used In) Operating Activities:		
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditure for the year	$ (34,865)	$ (256,364)
Add (deduct) items not affecting cash		
Bad Debt Expense	318,936	321,251
Changes in working capital:		
Client accounts receivable	(344,614)	(339,346)
Province of Manitoba receivable	29,000	(106,000)
Other receivables	20,119	2,645
Prepaid expense	(213,796)	(2,041)
Accounts payable and accrued vacation pay	185,156	334,988
Deferred revenue	4,206	31,283
Deferred contribution from Province of Manitoba	(140,770)	16,858
	(176,628)	3,274
Cash Flow Provided by (Used In) Financing Activities:		
Increase in long-term funding commitments	(822,154)	(728,009)
Increase in severance liability	52,276	77,937
Increase in provision for employee pension benefits	822,154	728,009
	52,276	77,937
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash for the Year	(124,352)	81,211
Cash - Beginning of Year	558,750	477,539
Cash - End of Year	434,398	558,750

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Schedule of Expenditures
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(with 2000 figures for comparison)

	COMMUNITY LAW CENTRES		PUBLIC INTEREST LAW CENTRE		UNIVERSITY LAW CENTRE		GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE		TOTAL	
	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000
Advertising	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 17,774	$ 16,320	$ 17,774	$ 16,320
Bad debts	0	0	0	0	0	0	318,938	321,251	318,938	321,251
Bank charges	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,980	1,852	1,980	1,852
Board expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	29,403	31,319	29,403	31,319
Collection costs	0	0	0	0	0	0	18,815	18,810	18,815	18,810
Computer costs	9,291	84,798	149	5,788	0	0	28,865	97,340	38,105	187,925
Duty counsel	98,971	100,480	0	0	0	0	2,684	3,360	96,256	103,840
Equipment maintenance	73,251	57,804	8,667	3,810	0	0	29,650	24,949	111,538	86,364
Expert witnesses & consultants	0	0	41,822	65,911	0	0	0	0	41,822	65,911
File disbursements	238,499	250,544	51,522	63,217	964	1,178	7,341	6,088	298,326	321,026
Furniture and equipment, net of disposals	12,159	68,231	2,771	9,819	0	0	1,850	30,129	16,730	103,979
Library	44,952	43,184	8,409	9,880	332	324	20,414	11,671	74,107	65,039
Meetings	11,728	9,402	0	394	50	0	14,558	19,489	26,336	29,285
Office expenses	138,379	150,333	13,358	15,322	2,380	3,178	129,401	122,409	283,515	291,243
Office relocation	22,290	2,875	0	479	0	0	720	5,261	23,010	8,415
Pension costs (note 12)	0	0	0	0	0	0	863,842	758,882	863,842	758,882
Premise costs	380,820	375,459	17,914	17,739	7	0	112,845	114,380	521,486	507,578
Professional fees	123,622	136,488	9,809	11,778	5,200	10,500	97,021	116,913	235,652	275,849
Salaries, benefits and levy	5,130,638	5,027,833	319,832	317,645	58,379	57,000	1,564,833	1,508,222	7,074,682	6,910,299
Severance Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0	62,575	77,937	62,575	77,937
Staff development	30,620	25,277	4,844	4,466	0	0	9,156	49,582	44,420	79,314
Staff recruitment	4,861	3,244	100	0	0	0	0	0	4,761	3,244
Telephone	107,841	107,130	3,951	5,384	1,958	1,775	73,799	58,155	187,549	172,425
Transcripts and Other Contribution Services	78,853	89,800	0	0	0	0	0	0	78,853	89,800
Travel	147,230	151,088	6,280	7,030	3,334	3,281	14,012	19,581	170,856	180,982
TOTAL	$ 6,660,125	$ 6,693,091	$ 489,015	$ 534,231	$ 73,804	$ 77,236	$ 3,417,974	$ 3,413,900	$ 10,640,718	$ 10,708,456

Notes to Financial Statements
for the year ended March 31, 2001

1. Nature of the Society

The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba (the Society) was established by an Act of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba.

The objects of the Society, as set out in the Act, are:

- to provide legal advice and services to individuals, groups and organizations who, left to their own means, could not afford to retain the service of a lawyer.

- to furnish legal aid advice to groups and organizations involving matters of an interest common to members of the group and relating to issues of public interest such as, but not restricted to, consumer and environmental issues.

The Society is economically dependent upon the Province of Manitoba. Other revenue sources include the Manitoba Law Foundation, individual clients, and third party agencies.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

a) Accounting Basis

The financial statements are prepared on an accrual basis of accounting except for:
i) Private bar fees and disbursements which are recognized as expenditures based on lawyers' billings dates rather than the dates of providing required services.
ii) Capital Assets are charged to operations in the year acquired. Proceeds of disposal are reflected as reductions to expenditures.

b) Recognition of Contributions from Clients

Clients may be required to pay a portion or all of the legal costs incurred on their behalf by the Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba based on the clients' ability to pay.

i) Agreements to Pay

Clients who are able to pay, sign an agreement to pay for their portion of the applicable legal costs. The amount the client is required to pay is specified on the legal aid certificate. The revenue and receivable are recognized when the certificate is signed.

ii) Expanded Eligibility

Under terms of expanded eligibility, clients are required to pay all of the legal costs and an administration fee of 25%. The revenue and receivable are recognized based on the date of the lawyer's billing.

iii) Charges on Land

Charges on Land are registered under Section 17 of the Legal Aid Services Society Act in Land Titles on property owned by clients. The revenue and receivable are recognized at the later of the date the lien is filed or the date of the

lawyer's billing. Collection of these accounts in the future is dependent on the client disposing of the property or arranging for payment.

c) Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

An allowance for doubtful accounts is recorded against receivables based on a specific review of accounts, except for the allowance against charges on land, which is recorded at 50% of the outstanding balance.

d) Contributed Services

Under an arrangement between the Society and the Department of Justice, the Department provides transcripts and other services to the Society at no cost. The value of these contributed services is recorded as revenue and as an expenditure.

e) Measurement Uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingencies at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

f) Pension Plan

Employees of the Society are pensionable under the Civil Service Superannuation Act. The Corporation accrues a provision for the liability for the employer's share of employee pension benefits, including future cost of living adjustments, based on an actuarial valuation.

g) Financial Instruments

Legal Aid Services Society's financial instruments consist of cash, short-term investments, accounts receivable, accounts payable, and accrued liabilities. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Society is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments. The fair value of these financial instruments approximates their carrying values.

3. Client Accounts Receivable, net

	2001	2000
Agreements to Pay	$ 55,734	$ 63,188
Expanded Eligibility	375,421	416,444
Charges on Land	1,627,663	1,538,391
	2,058,818	2,018,023
Less: Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	1,072,331	1,057,214
Clients Accounts Receivable, net	$ 986,487	$ 960,809

4. Other Receivables, net

	2001	2000
Court Costs	$ 198,229	$ 188,501
Child & Family Services	3,970	9,606
Social Services	68,785	82,728
Employee Advances and GST Recoverable	4,227	3,081
	275,211	283,916
Less: Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	191,806	180,392
Other Receivables, net	$ 83,405	$ 103,524

5. Severance pay benefits

Effective April 1, 1998, Legal Aid is recording accumulated severance pay benefits for their employees. Severance pay is determined by multiplying years of service, to a maximum of fifteen years, by the weekly salary at date of retirement, provided the employee reaches nine years of service and retires from Legal Aid. The estimate is based upon the method of calculation set by the Province of Manitoba.

The Province accepted responsibility for the severance benefits accumulated by Legal Aid employees to March 31, 1998. Accordingly, the opening severance pay liability balance as at April 1, 1998 of $716,166 was completely offset by a receivable from the Province. There are no terms of repayment for the receivable, and the amount will remain fixed at $716,166.

6. Special Trial

During the fiscal year ended March 31, 1999, Legal Aid retained counsel for a number of accused under a special order from the Province of Manitoba. These retainers are not governed by Legal Aid tariff or regulations but are a special agreement between the Private Bar and Legal Aid. All funding received from the Province of Manitoba for this trial is restricted solely for expenditures incurred in the process of defending those accused. Any funding not committed at the end of the special trial must be returned to the Province of Manitoba.

	2001	2000
Revenue from the Province of Manitoba	$ 1,342,715	$ 1,816,360
Expenditures, Private Bar and Staff	1,342,715	1,816,360
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditure	$ 0	$ 0

At March 31, 2001, Legal Aid was holding $30,000 in deferred contributions from the Province of Manitoba pertaining to this special trial. The main trial was completed within the fiscal year, however final assessment of billings related to appeal proceedings are still outstanding.

7. Revenue from the Province of Manitoba

	2001	2000
Grant	$ 7,691,605	$ 7,393,120
Salaries and other payments	6,243,761	6,065,741
Health and post secondary education tax levy	132,360	129,284
Employer portion of employee benefits	426,128	416,345
Contributed Services	162,037	174,493
	$ 14,656,391	$ 14,178,983

Funding from the Province of Manitoba includes the Society's share of provisions recorded for unfunded pension liabilities.

8. Revenue from the Manitoba Law Foundation

	2001	2000
Statutory Grant	$ 1,328,935	$ 1,492,438
Public Interest Law Centre	150,000	150,000
University Law Centre	45,000	45,000
	$ 1,523,935	$ 1,687,438

A statutory grant, pursuant to subsection 65(1) of The Law Society Act, is received annually from The Manitoba Law Foundation. The Society's share under the Act is 50% of the total interest on lawyers' trust accounts as received by the Foundation or a minimum of $1,007,629, whichever is greater. In the event that interest received by the Foundation in the preceding year, after deduction of the Foundation's operational expenses, is not sufficient to pay the statutory minimum of $1,007,629 to The Legal Aid Services Society, the Act provides for pro-rata sharing of the net interest.

For March, 2001 the amount of the grant exceeded the minimum due to higher interest rates during 1999/2000 and the level of lawyer trust accounts.

Other grants from The Manitoba Law Foundation are received pursuant to subsection 65(4) of The Law Society Act. These grants are restricted for the Public Interest Law Centre and the University Law Centre. At March 31, 2001, there were no unrestricted funds remaining from these grants.

9. Commitments

i) Lease

The Society rents facilities under operating leases. Unpaid remaining commitments under the leases, which expire at varying dates to March 31, 2006 are:

2002	$ 402,042
2003	$ 273,852
2004	$ 243,001
2005	$ 243,001
2006	$ 243,001
	$1,404,897

ii) Private Bar

Estimated total commitments for future billings on outstanding legal aid certificates amount to $6,293,000 as at March 31, 2001 (2000 - $7,284,000).

10. Related Parties Transactions

The Society is related in terms of common ownership to all Province of Manitoba created departments, agencies and crown corporations. The Society enters into transactions with these entities in the normal course of business.

11. Private Bar Fees and Disbursements, net

	Fees	Disbursements	2001 Total	2000 Total
Legal Aid Certificates	$ 6,189,110	$1, 011,150	$ 7,200,260	$ 7,045,807
Reduction in fees	(231,590)	0	(231,590)	(346,517)
Holdback Repayment	191,863	0	191,863	219,039
	6,149,383	$1,011,150	7,160,533	6,918,329
Duty Counsel	209,773	0	209,773	136,250
Reduction in fees	(2,502)	0	(2,502)	(3,172)
Holdback Repayment	1,640	0	1,640	2,031
	208,911	0	208,911	135,109
Transcripts and Other Contributed Services	0	84,384	84,384	84,893
Net	$ 6,358,294	$1,095,534	$ 7,453,828	$ 7,138,331

For March 31, 2001 the reduction in private bar fees totaled $234,092 (2000 - $349,689). Subsequent to the year end, the Board has determined that $210,683 will be refunded for private bar fees reduced during 2000/01. The amount of the repayment is reflected above.

Since 1992 the private bar fees have been reduced by a percentage determined by the Board. The specific reduction applied to the private bar fees is the reduction in fees approved by the Board relating to the year in which the legal aid file was opened. For March 31, 2001 the percentage reduction in fees approved by the Board was set at 5% for criminal matters only. There is no liability for the reduction of fees held back beyond the distribution approved by the Board each year.

12. Provision for Employee Pension Benefits

Pension costs consist of the employer's share of pension benefits paid to retired employees, as well as the increase in the unfunded pension liability during the fiscal year. This liability is determined by an actuarial valuation every three years with the balances for the intervening years being determined by formula provided by the actuary. The most recent valuation was completed as at December 31, 1998 by Ellement & Ellement Ltd., Consulting Actuaries.

	2001	2000
Balance at beginning of year	$ 6,432,631	$ 5,704,622
Benefits accrued	379,401	324,550
Interest accrued on benefits	484,440	434,332
Benefits paid	(41,687)	(30,873)
Balance at end of year	$ 7,254,785	$ 6,432,631

The key actuarial assumptions were a rate of return of 7% (1995 - 7.5%), 3% inflation (1995 - 3.75%), salary rate increases of 4.5% (1995 - 5.5%) and post retirement indexing at 2/3 of the inflation rate. The entry age normal actuarial cost method was used and the liabilities have been extrapolated to March 31, 2001 using a formula provided by the actuary.

The Province of Manitoba has accepted responsibility for the unfunded pension liability. Accordingly the provision for employee pension benefits is offset by a receivable from the Province of Manitoba. There are no terms of repayment for this receivable.

13. Public Sector Compensation Disclosure

For the purposes of the Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act, all compensation for employees, Board members and the private bar fees and disbursements from The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba is disclosed in a separate statement.

Office of the Provincial Auditor

500 - 330 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
CANADA R3C 0C4

AUDITORS' REPORT
Supplementary Financial Information Prepared in Accordance with The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act

To the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba, and
To the Board of Directors of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba

We have audited the Statement of Compensation Paid to Board Members and Employees and the Statement of Private Bar Fees and Disbursements in Excess of $50,000 for The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba for the year ended March 31, 2001 prepared in accordance with Sections 2 and 4 of The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act. This financial information is the responsibility of the management of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial information based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial information is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial information. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial information.

In our opinion, these statements present fairly, in all material respects, the compensation payments to board members and employees, and payments to persons providing legal aid services for the year ended March 31, 2001 by The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba in accordance with the provisions of The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act.

Office of the Provincial Auditor

Office of the Provincial Auditor

Winnipeg, Manitoba
August 21, 2001

The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba
Statement of Private Bar Fees and Disbursements in Excess of $50,000
For the Year Ended March 31, 2001
(Prepared in accordance with Section 4 of the Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act)

Name of Firm	Amount
PHILLIPS, AIELLO	689,878.54
CASSIDY, RAMSAY	684,751.69
BRODSKY & COMPANY	333,454.09
GINDIN, WOLSON, SIMMONDS	296,253.21
SAHEEL ZAMAN LAW OFFICE	280,713.25
SMITH, DUNCAN	189,134.20
HUNT, MILLER & COMBS	188,408.64
PINX ROITENBERG CAMPBELL	175,779.02
LOFCHICK, JONES & ASSOC.	164,646.71
LEGAL AID MANITOBA	152,054.73
JOYCEY, VANDONGEN	138,378.14
ARCHER PHILLIPS LAW OFFICE	137,237.52
MYERS WEINBERG KUSSIN	122,962.95
KILLEEN CHAPMAN	113,128.41
EDMOND - MUIR	102,289.79
KOHAYKEWYCH & ASSOC.	93,580.14
SANDIP SETT	91,276.90
GISELE CHAMPAGNE	91,151.40
JOHN DOVENER WHITE	90,517.43
SIMS & COMPANY	88,790.70
SKINNER LAW OFFICE	73,524.95
STANLEY S. NOZICK	69,542.10
MARTIN GLAZER LAW OFFICE	69,177.43
Z. IAN GARBER	68,891.66
ROBERTSON SHYPIT SOBLE	65,101.97
JODY BROWN	63,877.65
GINNELL, BAUMAN & ASSOC.	61,873.17
POOLE LAW OFFICE	60,717.64
BILL ARMSTRONG	59,610.18
CHAPMAN, GODDARD, KAGAN	59,325.21
HELIX BIOTECH CORP.	55,970.40
BOOTH, DENNEHY	55,783.63
IRWIN LAW OFFICE	55,699.80
ROXROY WEST	54,989.81
EDMOND MURPHY	54,094.82
WOLCHOCK & COMPANY	54,052.44
WILDER WILDER & ASSOC.	52,481.21
PERLOV STEWART LINCOLN	52,261.93
SINCLAIR &ASSOCIATES	50,693.49
McCOY LAW OFFICE	50,520.67

The payments reflected in this statement are on a cash basis, net of the private bar reduction in fees.

The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba
Statement of Compensation Paid to Board Members and Employees
For the year Ended March 31,2001
(Prepared in accordance with Section 2 of the Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act)

Paid to Board Members:	
In aggregate	$24,839.00

Paid to employees in excess of $50,000:

Name	Position	Amount
McNeilly, G.K.	Executive Director	$92,750.16
Klassen, R.G.	Deputy Director	88,583.19
Dunn, W.	Legal Director	85,699.01
Merrett,W.	Area Director	85,699.01
McDonald, T.	Supervising Attorney	85,139.94
Malcolm, W.L.	Supervising Attorney	84,431.70
Tailleur, L.J.	Supervising Attorney	83,687.77
Cliffford. G.	Supervising Attorney	82,940.74
Peltz, A.	Director	82,929.54
Allen, H.L.	Supervising Attorney	82,671.59
Sandhu, F.H.	Supervising Attorney	82,588.89
Sherman, C.D.	Supervising Attorney	82,588.89
Koturbash, T.M.	Supervising Attorney	81,703.83
Giesbrecht, L.B.	Supervising Attorney	81,434.68
Paluk, M.D.	Supervising Attorney	81,434.68
Pitts, H.	Staff Attorney	79,949.56
Birks, C.G..	Staff Attorney	78,901.59
Cadloff, K.A.	Staff Attorney	78,901.59
Grafton, R.N.	Staff Attorney	78,901.59
Peters, H.C.	Staff Attorney	78,901.59
Hawrysh, G.B.	Staff Attorney	78,818.89
Hwozdulych, B.A.	Staff Attorney	78,818.89
Krause, R.	Staff Attorney	77,933.83
Brecht, R.B.	Staff Attorney	77,664.68
Chartrand, L..R.	Staff Attorney	77,664.68
Dzydz, D.	Staff Attorney	77,664.68
Hart, M. E.	Staff Attorney	77,664.68
Heinrichs, R.M.	Staff Attorney	77,664.68
MacAulay,G.G.	Staff Attorney	77,664.68
Walker, M.	Staff Attorney	77,664.68
Congdon, W.J.G.	Staff Attorney	76,804.68
Bates,G.D.	Staff Attorney	76,398.11
Pauls, C.	Staff Attorney	74,463.22
Roller, C.C.	Staff Attorney	72,118.58
McCaffrey, K. M.	Staff Attorney	71,871.76
McGarry, A.B.	Staff Attorney	71,291.25
Williams, J.B.	Staff Attorney	69,231.39
Harbottle, S.M.	Staff Attorney	68,798.81
Zlotnick, M.	Staff Attorney	38,293.54
Ramsay, J.	MIS Director	66,152.53
Neustaeter, J.G.	Staff Attorney	65,551.47
Libman, A.M.	Staff Attorney	64,007.79
Glowacki, L.J.	Staff Attorney	63,989.06
Connor, M.	Staff Attorney	62,812.20
Kingsley, P.	Staff Attorney	61,221.55
Balneaves,S.	Information Services Officier	59,522.51
Makar, M. S.	Staff Attorney	59,353.60
Johnston, S.	Staff Attorney	54,667.55
Dwarka, R.	Director of Administration	52,857.37